

SEVEN DAYS

ONION
APPEAL

PAGE 14
Mayoral hopefuls
woo a new Winocski

VERMONT'S INDEPENDENT VOICE FEBRUARY 19 & 25, 2015 VOL. 20 NO. 14 SEVENDAYSVT.COM

WATER WARRIOR

James Ehlers is Lake Champlain's loudest — and most divisive — advocate

BY KATHRYN FLASK / MARK SO



UP THE WALL

PAGE 24

Street artists in Middlebury

TALKING 'MARCO POLO'

PAGE 34

VT writer John Fusco on his Netflix hit

GYM CLASS REBOOT

PAGE 37

An old-school workout reboot

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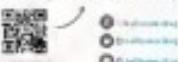
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THE LAST

SEVEN DAYS

COMPILED BY MEL THOMPSON & ANDREA SAWYER

WEEK IN REVIEW

PUBLISHED BY MC GRAW-HILL

facing facts



CHILLIN'

For the second year in a row, Lake Champlain has shared its annual "Most Challenging School Year" list, announced by the Vermont Department of Education on Monday. Local 45-area schools

12

This is the number of last-dollar-field trips required for the state to win the Vermont Best Public Schools award, and requires officials to meet the following 10 demands for especially effective schools:

- Students feel safe and supported
- Teachers feel supported
- Principals feel supported
- Administrators feel supported
- Families feel supported
- Students feel connected to their school
- Families feel connected to their school
- Administrators feel connected to their school
- Principals feel connected to their school
- Teachers feel connected to their school
- Students feel connected to their school

TOP FIVE

BEST PLACES TO SPEND YOUR SUMMER VACATION

- 1 *"Adventure Awaits! Bookend in the Pond: Vermonters to Use End of Lake Law" by Tom McLaughlin.* After the long, rainy spring, adventurous summer, Vermonters were the first to respond to use the waters and off-the-beaten-path destinations.
- 2 *"Taking the Wrap: Inspiring Couples Choose an Elopement Wedding Chapel" by Heidi Cole.* Vermont's newest numbers of elopements were down 10 percent in 2013, but the trend continues, with many more than in the last few years. Check out our top 10 elopement locations. They're all unique!
- 3 *"Most Popular: 10 More Small Businesses Opened in Vermont in 2013" by Pauline Siccama.* A general commitment to local for the adoption of a "responsible" model despite problems from one or two companies who rocked up to Vermont's business scene.
- 4 *"A West Town Candidate for State Senate and Deep Arkansas?" by Alex Ladd.* The names of a Boston firefighter might be all of it, but Ladd's political career was in full bloom last fall, having survived and overcome his own personal demons.
- 5 *"Jeffersonville Businesses at a New French Rally" by Alice Ladd.* Businesses in Jeffersonville turned out in full force for a rally organized by the town's new mayor, Alice Ladd, to support local businesses' outcry against state-owned energy resources.



BUZZED

After a year-and-a-half as president and CEO, Dennis Kimball, founder of the 45-year-old Vermont Institute of Technology, has announced he will step down.



CHILL ME

Vermont 2-6-1 installed its 60th microhydro facility, making it the second state to surpass 6,000 watts of power. It's the first year of the program, so it's still early to tell exactly what kind of impact they'll have on the local economy.



BY A WHIRL

Prosecutors dropped a case against a man charged in the 1985 Vermont killing of a police officer because a law thought to have come from the defendant's own mouth should be thrown out.

12

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SUPER HIRE

The Burlington School District has been looking for a leader since major financial problems prompted former superintendent Jerome Collins to take a buyout last spring. An interim administrator was stepped in only to resign a few months later, because it couldn't get along with the school board.

Interim superintendent Howard Smith has been able holding down the fort until board members could find a permanent replacement. Last week, they settled the deal with Tom Obeng, as Alice Freeze reported last on Seven Days' Off Message blog last Thursday.

The Ghana native, who oversees 12 schools

in Ghana, Canada, and

Burlington now is super July 1—the fourth individual to hold the job in a year and a half.

Obeng was 8 when he arrived in United States. Like many of the students

in Burlington, he began his schooling as an English Language Learner. Said school board chair Patrick Holladay: "His personnel name will resonate very strongly with the needs and changing demographics of the district."

Obeng, emerged from a field of 60 applicants, and was one of two candidates introduced to the community. He quickly became the strong favorite, school board members cheered and hugged each other as they voted to hire him. Interviewers reporters last week over Obeng, noting that the law in Ontario prohibits him from running a budget deficit.

Obeng's salary will be \$153,000—a figure that prompted one board member, Scott Shewiro, to vote against his hiring—even though he supported the candidate.

Obeng has to get a work visa and a Vermont superintendent's license.

Said Holladay: "We're confident that will be able to be achieved."



Illustrations by Michaela K. Miller

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SEVEN DAYS

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7

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ARTICLES READING REACTION

By Jennifer Johnson
Photo: Paulina Elizalde/Family
ILLUSTRATION: DEBORA RICCI

The Kijani, Gaby Gómez, Cecilia Beltrán
and actress Marisol Rea

ARTICLES READING REACTION

LEARN TO LOVE YOUR SKIN: Keri D. Lewis, Diane
Silva de Rode, Karen Flagg, Alena Shewry,

Tina Hollenbeck, Kris Perini, Susie Stevens

POLITICAL READING REACTION

THE LITTLE COUGAR: Mike Lovell

and actress Kristina Polakoff

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SEXUAL READING REACTION

LOVING IT: Angie Kuhns and Joe Reining

ARTICLES READING REACTION

THE LITTLE COUGAR: Cheryl Borelli

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ARTICLES READING REACTION

LOVING IT: Angie Kuhns and Joe Reining

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CARPE CHEM

BY DEB MAGEE, MANHATTAN, "SERANO PAUL 600 Latin, not Latin American," February 13. As an erstwhile student of Latin, I say to both Angela Kuhns and Ben Joe Reining: "Bite, bite, optimism quidem!"

Pete Salsbury
ST. JOHNSBURG

We've got the smartest phones around — except when they're useless.

Mrs. Little's courage deserves more than a strained moment of disbelief. I'm grateful to Davis for telling this story. It is truly a cautionary tale. Who among us wouldn't have done what she did for our loved ones? Again, I'm sure you get the point. But who else is listening? Get you hearing aids now?

Peggy Sapphire
CORTLAND

CAUTIONARY TALE

Marc Davis claimed my attention with his tilling of the recently discussed 71-year-old Northeast Kingdom resident, Patricia Little, who died for lack of cellphone service [PA Final Act of Devotion, Latr. in Tragedy," February 6]. Of course, that wasn't the gist of the story. It was that her "Final Act of Devotion" was simultaneously futile. She and most of us in the NEK live without access to HI in any weather. Little's entirely HI husband needed HI services during the height of a recent snowstorm. Electricity in this region was down, our phones were mute.

Mrs. Little died in the final act of walking a half mile for help, and was within 300 yards of her nearest neighbor when she succumbed. Her body was found days later, frozen to death, embalmed in snow. Now in the land of 21st-century wind turbine installations, Patricia Little and most of us have been reduced to a single choice, which is obviously no choice.

TM NEWCOMB

WRONG MAYOR

I enjoyed reading Dan Balow's excellent cover story ["Urban Legend," January 18]. Balow exposed the unique role of a municipally supported non-tax municipal club, Jane Benders and Kathy Lawrence, had in raising and committing to empower youth in a way that transformed hundreds of lives and laid the foundation for Burlington's thriving music scene.

There is one factual error about the Mayor's Youth Office and TM's summary that deserves correction. On page 14, Balow wrote, "the Mayor's Youth Office was dissolved by Bernie Sanders' successor, Mayor Peter Clavelle, and the victory of the teen center subsequently won." As a city councilor in 1993 I fought alongside other Progressives and Independents to save the Mayor's Youth Office from the budget cleaver of newly elected Mayor Peter Clavelle. The record will show that Mayor Bissell eliminated funding for



the youth office with the support of every Democrat and Republican on the council at the time. This cut was supposed to depict the fact that the office had nominal city general fund support and leveraged grants from several sources. With this move, Saginaw lost an office that gave youth a voice in municipal affairs and sent a disastrous message to the future of our community.

Simon Peng

A LITTLE HELP

I read with great sadness the article "A Terrible Act of Revision Ends in Tragedy" [February 4]. It has a hole very quickly



As silly as it sounds, one thing that might have saved Patricia Little is an old-fashioned Princess phone. Remember when you had a "landline" phone? It only plugged in to the phone jack, no electricity needed. Although the Landline technology was out, leaving their cordless landline useless, their phone line might still have been working. Even though cordless would not have saved her if her cell phone had gone uncharged. One old telephone would have allowed Mrs. Little to call for help to save her husband — and herself. It's a bit of a Realistic, and I do keep a Princess phone in the drawer with the cellular in case of emergency. There are times when the old ways are actually better and more reliable than the new.

God bless Patricia Little. She sounds like she was a really wonderful person. In her honor buy yourself and your elderly neighbor or parent an ugly old Princess phone. Generally retro and make it a mystery. It could save a life.

Susan McMillan
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BUILDING A MEDICAL EMPIRE

As presented by "Single Payer" (January 21), the strategy of the newly rebranded University of Vermont Medical Center in clearly to develop political clout by consolidating, arrogating and evenwise phasing out technology. According to CEO Brummel, UVMHIC is "gaining scale" to better position the hospital to respond to the ever-changing health care landscape. What has happened to the primary value that the needs of patients come first?

Patients' basic health care needs include universal access to care, time to talk with a doctor/provider and ability to follow a prescribed plan.

This pursuit of scale includes additional collateral damage such as bloated administrative costs, as exemplified by 19 vice presidents. The University of Vermont will close three dormitories to accommodate the seven-story, 128-bed tower, leaving the city of Burlington to absorb the housing needs for hundreds of displaced students in an already-stressed housing market. I am reminded of the expression, "when you have a hammer, everything looks like a nail." What

building a medical empire and monopoly. We that at UTRIMMC, every headache becomes a brain tumor and every chest pain becomes a heart attack, leading to more unnecessary interventions and procedures to pad the bill. We don't need more books and money we need a educated version of them.

Anna Carey

Carry is a family physician based in Cambridge.

行有善而不顯者

SECTION

Last week's cover story about the Burlington mayoral race, "Way to go," measured the number of student-housing units Mayor Mike Wittenberg has proposed for downtown Burlington. Reporter Alene Fleisch reported 2,390 based on a draft version of the housing-action plan posted on the city's website. An updated version of that plan, posted in a different location on the website, indicates the number has been reduced to 1,599.

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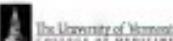


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①

WEDNESDAY 25

SPIRITED SONGSTRESS

In 2012, Cecile McLorin Salvant (pictured) was the first *Timeless Monk International Jazz Competition*. Since then, the singer-songwriter has won awards and accolades from every corner of jazz, including a *Grammy Award* nomination and *Chamber Music America* and *DownBeat* awards. This fall, she'll perform with the *Los Angeles Philharmonic*.

[SEE FALL CONCERTS ON PAGE 102](#)

②

ONGOING

Nature's Way

To say Nick Webster takes an off-the-wall approach to his art is an understatement. Enclosed within the windows near childhood art naïveté, Webster crafts his pastel, acrylic, and charcoal masterpieces from natural materials. On view at the Vermont Art Center, alongside his drawings in "Sipping for Roots," Wild Edibles' artwork reflects the organic vision down to the handmade frames.

[SEE INTERVIEW ON PAGE 104](#)

③

THURSDAY 18

Flying High

Under the Big Top, circus acrobats like the one above do more than double backflips; they complete miles of strength and flexibility in nearly hours of grueling practice. *Witness*, 11 countries' first solo, includes 2013 documentary *Breaking the Sky*, which offers an eye-opening glimpse into the private lives of these on-again artists.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 102](#)

④

TUESDAY 24

Page to Stage

Literature takes a back seat to fun at *NEA Big Read*, a presentation of poetry and prose from the New England Review and by Middlebury College students and faculty. Inspired by Public Radio International's *Selected Shorts*, this megafest invites 140 readings by performers, theater and literature artists with irreverent live performances.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 102](#)

⑤

FRIDAY 20

Telling Tales

When Vermont author Bill Schutt teams up with Vermont and *New York Times Magazine* columnist Jason Furman at *Lakeview* at 6 p.m., they'll regale the seated audience with *Inseparable: Yourself*, Place-Based Storytelling, in part of the Vermont-made-centers ongoing initiative to promote place and story.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 102](#)

⑥

THURSDAY 19-SUNDAY 22

Abridged Version

Theater lovers get more bang for their buck at the *Pittsfield 48-Hour Play Festival*, held April 19-20. This annual showcase allows for anything and everything to happen—playoffs, improv tournaments, trash around the country with *Macbeth* or travel the world with *Hamlet*. Whichever play you choose, there's always a little punch and make every moment count.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 102](#)

⑦

SATURDAY 21

Sounding Off

According to the Boston Globe, *the Savory's* song is "f**k big. Does big, even a smidge of Pink Floyd." Anchored by the compelling presence of Burlington native Jason Danie, the band has an intense, dedicated following of horns-and-keyboards alike. Expect a nod to Motley Crue, where bassists often play solos into their keyboards.

[SEE LISTING ON PAGE 102](#)

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FAIR GAME OPEN SEASON ON VERMONT POLITICS BY PAUL HEINTZ

POLITICS

Ethics 101

In recent weeks, ethics scandals have engulfed the governor of Oregon, the attorney general of Pennsylvania and the speaker of the New York State Assembly.

Here in quiet old Vermont, of course, nobody would dare set against the public interest (except perhaps for all those enriching town treasuries). If they did, we might never know about it — until now.

That's because, before last month, Vermont was one of just 10 states without any sort of internal legislative ethics committee empowered to investigate potential wrongdoing, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. It remains one of just eight states without an external ethics committee composed with overseeing the conduct of the立法机关, the administration or political candidates.

But in recent weeks, the five members of Vermont's newly appointed House Ethics Panel have been meeting at the Statehouse to figure out how to allow their peers on ethical conduct and investigate complaints of abuse.

"It's a brand-new panel, and we're trying to figure out our procedure and how we would move forward if there is a claim of some type of behavior that people are concerned about," says Rep. DAVID BRAIN (D-Westminster), its chair.

"Hopefully we'll never have to set anything," says Rep. LARRY GEMBU (R-Bethel), Dorn's fellow sponsor.

Among the questions they're asking: What evidence will the group investigate? What punishments might they recommend? How will they take evidence and interview witnesses? And will they inform the public of their findings?

When the House passed a resolution last spring creating the panel, it made sense things aren't done yet: the group recommendations would have to be approved by the House as a whole. And the panel will have to report over a year how many complaints it receives and how much it researched.

Beyond that, Dorn says he hopes to keep its investigations secret, in order to protect from public embarrassment those who are wrongly accused.

"It's going to be confidential," he says. "I prefer to let it end up fighting with you, and I think we've got solid ground."

Dorn says he's also hoping to spend publishing every aspect of lawmaker lives.

"If you see me driving at 85 miles per hour on 99, that is not an ethical violation. That's a violation of the law," he says. "There's not a claim we want to handle."

Rather, the group expects to spend much of its time addressing House Rule 75,

which bars members from voting "upon any question in which they are immediately or directly interested."

For years, the legislature's lawyers have interpreted that rule quite narrowly, allowing lawmakers to vote on legislation affecting their employers, so long as they do not have "direct, proprietary interest."

Precisely where that line is drawn became the subject of considerable debate last winter when Campaigns for Vermont — a political group founded by retired investment banker MIKE LEHRMAN — went after then-representative MIKE MCGRATH, a St. Albans Democrat. CPV alleged that McGrath violated Rule 75 when he voted for an anti-environmental legislation that would have been bad for his employer, SunCommon,

liberty of digitizing the data ourselves and analyzing it. By our deadline, all but three of the House's 150 members had submitted disclosure forms.

Of those, 61 House members — or 41 percent — indicated they were retired or otherwise unemployed. Another 38 legislators — or 26 percent of those who filed out the forms — said they were "self-employed" — 45 House members — or 32 percent — said they worked for an outside employer, and some of those held full-time or part-time jobs.

It's not surprising that so few House members work a conventional nine-to-five. Though it's illegal for an employee for serving in the legislature, it's difficult to find a profession that can accommodate an unusual four-months' absence.

Vermont's so-called "citizen" legislature is certainly more affordable for retirees given that legislators aren't exactly rolling in it. They make \$676.56 a week for the 16 weeks they serve, plus meals, lodging and mileage allowances, but no benefits. Rep. ALAN CLARKSON (D-Woodstock) recently introduced legislation to compensate lawmakers \$17 an hour in the off-season for constituent service work, but given the state's budget crunch, he fell in dead on arrival.

Among the professionals House members include an insurance agent, town clerk, ex-solicitor, lawyer and her driver. It's sometimes difficult to tell who the self-employed actually do — and who pays them.

The CHRISS PARSON (D-Berlinheights), for example, has his employer as Person A Company, his one-man construction firm — but he's not required to identify his clients. Last year, Dorn Deen reported that one of these was the now-defunct single-player lobbying group, Vermont Taxes, which paid the House Health Care Committee member to run its social media campaigns.

Not surprisingly, House members are heavily involved in their communities. Many simultaneously serve on their schoolboards and school boards or trustees of local colleges and hospitals — rains that likely reduce their legislative service.

It's difficult to imagine that Rep. ERIN MAYER (R-East Jaffrayton) serves as a state observing judge or Rep. MARIA PERRONE (D-Stowe) managing a service on the advisory board of a theater-owner skating team would pose a conflict of interest. But others' volunteer efforts could pose challenges.

Rep. BRIAN BROWN (D-South Londonderry) and PATRIK REED (D-Derham) have both involved with this year's mapmaking education reforms and both serve on the board of their local Burton Academy.

House Education Committee chair **DAVE WHALEY** (D-Burlington), a retired teacher, represents a mix of the Vermont-National Education Association teacher's union.

And freshman Rep. **MICHAEL FERDOL** (D-Bennington), who works at the Vermont Veterans Home also serves as a trustee of the Vermont State Employee's Association. That union is battling the governor over how many state jobs to cut.

Feldman says she expects to address any potential conflicts between her two roles "as they arise," but she argues, "It's reasonable to both, just as I think it's reasonable for people to be on a school board and dealing with education."

Summary agrees:

As a longtime member of the Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center board she spends introducing legislation more than a decade ago designed to increase its reimbursement rates. She doesn't recall whether she disclosed her affiliation with the hospital when the House voted on the bill. "But I think everybody knew because I was reading and moving about getting in a bill."

More to the point, she says, the hospital is "the biggest employer in my constituency."

Many of those members work for organizations that directly lobby the legislature. Rep. **MARSHALL BROWNEHILL** (D-Burlington) is the executive director of Land, Rep. **ANITA KENNEDY** (D-Burlington) is the state director of public affairs for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, and Rep. **ANGELA MA** (D-Jericho) is a doctor at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Other legislators appear to do the work of lobbyists themselves.

An executive director of the Vermont Association of Broadcasters, Rep. **ANNE CONGDON** (D-Caledonia) says he mostly focuses on federal communications policy. But last month he introduced a bill in the Vermont House that would reveal a new law requiring broadcasters to report transmission fees to the attorney general.

Congdon says he's simply trying to protect taxpayers, who would be on the hook if a broadcaster used the state over the law. Though he says he did nothing wrong by introducing the bill, he plans to return from voting on it if it reaches the floor.

"I think it's something the legislature has to discuss and learn about," he says.

Even **Daren**, the chair of the ethics panel, finds his legislative and professional roles overlapping. Outside the legislature, he works as Upper Valley river steward for the Connecticut River Watershed Council. In the legislature, he chairs the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources.

"For me, the test is Does [a bill] affect me individually, or does it affect all of us?" he says. "If it sets up a great program for the Connecticut River Watershed Council, I think well better recuse myself."

But isn't his service in the legislature a valuable commodity to his employer?

"We don't trade on that," he says. "Usually, 'I work for clean water.' If you have a problem with that, we can talk."

Soon after Rep. **SARAH MARION** (D-Torringford) passed legislation last year to expand access to prekindergarten, she was hired by Building Bright Futures, which advocates for early childhood education. As a regional coordinator, Marion says, she "wondered if there's clarity of state policy — and in the House Education Committee, on which she serves, she discusses her day job."

If anything, the organza her time at Building Bright Futures has made her a better legislator.

"To the extent that my work informs and supports what I'm able to offer here in the building, I don't shy away from that at all," she says. "I think that's the beauty of a lay legislator, to some extent."

Despite the influence and access it may provide, legislative service isn't viewed as an asset by some employers. After leaving her last gig, Lutman says, "It took me a year to find a full-time job. So frustrating."

Sen. **ROBERT WESTMAN** (D-Lincoln) has found the same.

"Who's going to hire me when I've gone from Senate in the middle of May every year?" he says.

Westman says that's one reason why, at age 55, he's still one of the youngest members of the Senate — and why few middle-income Vermonters can afford to serve.

Westman has made it work in recent years by managing a college savings program at the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, he says, he would receive benefits if related tax credits come up in debate, but he thinks it's asking too much for him to work elsewhere.

"You can't pay me \$120,000 a year and expect me to want to work — and there's almost no job that I can get where there wouldn't be some sort of implication," he says. "After 17 years [as the legislator], if someone wants to dump me for the fact that I'm beating myself trying to do my job and come here, that's fine."

Unlike his colleagues in the House, Westman doesn't normally have to disclose his employment situation — nor is his conduct governed by an ethics committee. That's because, like the Senate, he's declined to follow the House's lead.

"We really haven't talked about it," says Senate President Pro Temp. **JOHN CAMPBELL** (D-Windsor). "I really do believe that Vermont is one of the clearest states — from an ethics standpoint, I can't remember the last time there was something that even came close to a question of someone's ethics."

To view the Vermont House Employment Board documents, Records check our *Far Game* on sevendays.com.

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Roundabout Winooski: Mayoral Candidates Vie to Lead a Changing City

BY MELISSA GRANT

Bill Norflet sat at a corner table last Friday at the MLC Bistro in downtown Winooski, looking every bit the amateur on beach break in casual slacks and a collared shirt, but no jacket. Norflet promised he'll be there — on the city's Front Porch Forum email newsletter — between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. And he was, with his wife, Carrie, waiting for potential voters to come in and share their political campaign.

A curious regular stopped by and pulled up a chair. Norflet, a history buff, was right to establish his Winooski roots. "Takes up 900 feet from here — My grandfather had a vegetable garden there — we're talking 1910," semi-telling Norflet told John Ames. Soon, he had engaged Ames on current issues, such as parking and development.

Hours later, Norflet's opponent, Seth Leonard, was guest of honor at a downtown house party. Monge Ke host hosted the meet-and-greet that attracted 10 people, including longtime locals and refugees from Ithaca who had recently arrived in Winooski. As guests piled at a fruit platter, Leonard passionately responded on Winooski's zoning and planning rules.

"You dream about that stuff?" one woman exclaimed, pointing toward his shoulders.

Leonard, wearing baggy shorts and a dress shirt untouched with the sleeves rolled up, greeted each guest with and the rest of the new kid in school trying to make friends. "How long have you lived here? Nine years! Oh, wow!"

Both candidates tout their ties to major shoulder be viewed as a battle of old versus new. But they understand why voters may see it that way.

Norflet is 61. His family has lived in the city for three generations, and he served as mayor for most of the 1990s. "I've been here forever, but that's not my qualification," Norflet said.

Leonard is 32. He moved to the city three years ago and currently serves on the city council.

"To me, it's about ideas, and not personality or new versus old," Leonard insisted.

But as they compete to lead the next three years representing a rapidly evolving city, the vast difference in the levels of experience has emerged as a central distinction.

Norflet said he has the know-how to pull the levers of government and make progress.

Leonard cited more recent experience. He has spent the past two years as the city council's leading a long-shore unrecognizable in the one. Norflet provided no specific details.

Norflet left the mayor's office in 1999, shortly before Winooski's then-sleepy downtown filled up with bars and restaurants, apartments and condominiums. The defunct old model will in which struggling children labored was then a far-off, much-idealized daydream past.

The city's population has grown 11 percent since 2000, even as many Vermont communities have lost residents. Young professionals and refugees — from Boston, Santa Fe, Seattle and Ithaca — have caused an unusual present in Winooski's households: four at least one nonnative speaker. The students in the Winooski School District hail from 26 nations and speak 31 languages.

POLITICS



Norflet sharply divides the candidates. But they each have their priorities and would bring different points of view to a job that in Winooski, is largely ceremonial.

In Burlington, where Mayor Miro Weinberger is the boss in matters large and small in city hall, Winooski city manager Katherine DeVorese runs the city's daily operations, supervises staffers and enacts the city's budget, which councilors approve. For that, DeVorese earns \$79,000 a year, while Weinberger makes \$92,790.

The Winooski mayor gets an annual stipend of \$12,700.

The job description isn't phantom-like. The mayor leads the five-member city council, which elects the city manager and sets the agenda for council meetings.

Technically a full voting member of the council, the mayor historically only votes to break ties or to rule a stalemate on an issue of particular importance. The mayor also serves as the primary liaison between the council and December.

There are no wards in Winooski. Each city councilor represents all 7,200-plus residents. The higher-profile mayor is the de facto face of the city, the primary point of contact for anyone looking for an ear to bend. "The mayor is looked at by folks as the highest political official in the city," said Mayor Mike O'Brien, who decided not to seek reelection.

"People look at you, you ask the questions. You are the spokesman for the council and the city."

Norflet knows this. He served as mayor from 1991 to 1997, and would have continued in the office had then-councilorite not defeated him. He devoted the years that

followed to growing his fledgling legal practice. Norflet is a defense attorney who has represented some high-profile criminals, including Philip Saverio, a massive convert of killing a bunch of tourists in South Burlington in 2013. He also handles cases in family and civil areas.

When O'Brien, who succeeded Norflet, announced recently that he was stepping aside after eight years, Norflet decided he would step in.

"I'd rather be part of getting things done than calling them along for things to be done," Norflet said during a recent interview in his Main Street law office, a few blocks from the downtown traffic circle. He said his experience with the law and the other readings of city hall will enable him to name ideas into action.

For example, Norflet said he thinks that he can persuade the leaders of the Burlington Discourse to stage a concert or Winooski's long-dormant bandstand in the city, as they did when he was mayor. And he wants to introduce traffic-calming measures to help reduce the little-used parklets in the center of the downtown roundabout.

"These thousands of little things," Norflet said, "make a candidate, yours a candidate, and I know who to talk to and how to get things done. If I can't get an answer, I know where to find it."

Thush Pham, who opened Vietnamese Asian Market in 2010 and later a nearby restaurant bearing the same name, has occasionally relied on Norflet for legal advice. He displays a Norflet campaign sign in the front window of his restaurant. "He's a good guy," Pham said. "He's got a lot of ideas. He's going to be good for everyone in the city."

Norflet's signature campaign initiative is a proposal to form an alliance with public housing and affordable



**IT'S REALLY
IMPORTANT
THAT WE
LOOK FOR
PEOPLE WHO
REPRESENT
TODAY'S
WINOSKI.**
SETH LEONARD

housing nonprofits like the Champlain Housing Trust. He wants to convert dozens of Winoski's rental apartments into condominiums.

Nothl said that the city is being held back by the fact that all parcels of the city's housing units are rentals. Recognizing home ownership, he said, would allow investors—some residents too—to hold their assets and, in turn, they'd be more invested in the city.

"The rental ratio is very unhealthy," Nothl said. "You can't change that in three years. You can start though."

His plus, Nothl continued, is not fully known. It would "probably not" involve an assessment of city money. Rather, the city would encourage other groups to convert rental units to owner-occupied homes. "This is not new. It's just not done here," Nothl said.

More than 28 percent of Winoski residents live below the poverty line. Just a few blocks from the bustling downtown square, apartment buildings show signs of neglect. Puddling trash accumulates in tiny yards, windows are left broken.

Leonard works for the Vermont State Housing Authority, which provides housing to low-income residents. He served on the board of the Winoski Community Partnership and helped launch the Farmers' market in 2012. On Sundays during the growing season, residents flock to a grassy lot over the traffic circle to buy fresh produce.

Leonard is an Iowian native who moved to Vermont nearly a decade ago to volunteer for former governor Howard Dean's 2004 presidential campaign. He lived for several years in Burlington while he worked at the Opportunities Credit Union to develop Winoski. When his son and his fiancee decided to buy a home in 2011, they chose the Green City.

"It was a community we felt like we were a part of before we even moved here," Leonard said during an interview at Sweet & Co., a downtown coffee shop with high ceilings and wood floors, where he's been meeting with voters on Sunday afternoons.

His job at the credit union, which involved work with community groups, soon drew Leonard into local politics. He'd lived in Winoski for fewer than two years when he was a seat on the city council in 2012. Now Leonard and his ready to lead the city.

"It's really important that we look for people who represent today's Winoski," Leonard said. "It's different. I believe I believe I have my finger on the pulse of what's going on in the city. We've worked hard for that."

Leonard said he has been part of an effort to stabilize the city's finances since the mid-2000s. Winoski has run budget deficits. In 2010, the city laid off three employees to balance its books. Recently



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Vermont Lottery Rolls the Dice With Gambling Machines in Bars

BY TERRI HALLEMIECK

Last November, Shooters Saloon in St. Albans acquired its first Touch Play lottery machine. The gray 5-diamond console looks like a hybrid arcade game and automated poker machine. After feeding it cash, players can try the video gambling games King's Gold and Bank Blasters — or buy a conventional lottery ticket, such as Powerball and Megabucks.

Shooters owner Doug Grinnell welcomed the chance to become one of 25 Vermont proprietors to host the game.

"I just fill a few months in," Grinnell said. "The Touch Play is kind of being."

Vermonter Doug Grinnell welcomed the chance to become one of 25 Vermont proprietors to host the game.

"I just fill a few

POLITICS

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months in," Grinnell said.

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Play is kind of

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But it's yielded a few \$100 winners and brings in a little money from the bar's customers.

Vermont Lottery executive director Greg Smith said sales from the games have grossed more than \$10,000 per week at each location, but he declined to say how much profit the consoles have brought into state coffers after little more than two months of operation.

Despite potential profits, some feel that lottery games have no place in Vermont bars, and were disconcerted to learn that many had already been installed.

Last year, the Vermont House voted to ban the practice but the bill languished in the Senate and never became law. Meanwhile, the state lottery commission dropped all Touch Play consoles at Shooters and other pubs, including Tilley's in Colchester, T-Bagg's in Burlington and McRorie's in Winooski, before the year's end.

"We were a little surprised, given the fact that the House had taken a vote against putting these machines in bars and restaurants," said House Ways and Means Committee chair Jean Ansel (D-Colchester), who sponsored the bill. "The House was pretty strong on that."

But Gov. Shumlin approves of the new in-bar games and has a plan for the profits. His administration wants to send at least \$1 million of the revenue to the state's general fund to fully finance the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington next year. The home has long been in search of a new source of funding.



I'M NOT SURE DRINKING AND GAMBLING OUGHT TO MIX AS A SOURCE OF REVENUE. I JUST THINK IT'S A MISTAKE.

HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIR JANET ANSEL

Speaker Smith and lawmakers will find another source of revenue for the \$1 million Shumlin has budgeted for the veterans home. "This is an area where we will definitely have to do that," Smith said. "That's a concern, as far as I'm concerned." Shumlin has reportedly said that those who don't like his funding idea are welcome to catch up with their views, Correll noted.

Lawmakers also have long argued over to "Please play responsibly" and have noted the fact that "All profits go to the Vermont Education Fund," a fact that is not lost on Ansel. While she's unsure of whether she'll try again to banish lottery games from bars, she is confident that legislators won't approve new lottery proceeds for anything unrelated to education.

"I am totally against it, 100 percent," said House Speaker Shap Smith (D-Meriden). "I don't like expanding

gambling, and I do not believe it's appropriate to divert profits from the education fund."

The lottery proposal is one of several Shumlin has made this year that legislators are mulling. Others include his plans for a 0.7 percent payroll tax to boost Medicaid reimbursements, a firearms tax to finance waterway cleanup and the consolidation of emergency call centers.

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"I am totally against it, 100 percent," said House Speaker Shap Smith (D-Meriden). "I don't like expanding

"I don't think there's anything wrong with saying lottery profits go to Vermont veterans and the Vermont Education Fund," he said, adding that in most states such money goes to more than one source.

Correll said the governor will continue to monitor how hosting in-bar lottery games is working.

Ansel has concerns beyond gambling in bars; she questions whether Touch Play will deliver the promised revenue and worries that the games will divert money from the education fund by cannibalizing proceeds from other Vermont lottery games.

The legislature's Joint Fiscal Office told the House Ways and Means Committee recently that sales from the console games "will likely reduce existing revenues from the lottery to the education fund."

The lottery is projected to raise \$230 million in the current fiscal year.

The lottery director conceded that the machines could take some salesaway from other lottery agents, as customers might choose to buy Powerball tickets in bars rather than at convenience stores. "I expect there will be a small percentage of overlap," he said. But the machines don't offer scratch-off tickets, which account for 75 percent of lottery sales and should be unaffected by the new outlets, Smith said. People who use the machines are probably there to play interactive touch-screen games such as Cash Vault and Cover All Bases, he said.

He maintains that the Vermont lottery has the authority to launch new products at new locations. According to Ansel, state law is silent on whether bars and restaurants may serve as lottery agents, but that for 40 years such venues were not included.

At Shooters, Grinnell said that Vermont "needs to get in the 21st century." His customers, he noted, are traveling to casinos in New York, Quebec and Connecticut. The state of Vermont is "missing out on revenue," he said.

One lawmaker — Rep. Ronald Hubert (D-Milton) — has introduced legislation to overturn the construction of a casino in Vermont. "The chances of that bill passing? Don't bet on it," he said.

Contact: terri@vermontglobe.com, 999-9994, or @terrivt

Roundabout Winooski

through, the city got five clean audits, according to Winooski officials.

Lennard said he led the council's effort to bring the city treasurer position under its purview instead of the city manager's. The bureaucratic shuffling will help ensure that the treasurer is independent of other city hall employees and gives unfiltered information to councilors, Lennard said.

The next major should be devolved. In so doing, it is effort that has been put into exploring in city hall for months planning for future development along those three pathways to the city. Officials eventually plan to tear up existing zoning regulations and replace them with more flexible guidelines to encourage development while regulating the physical appearance of projects. The effort targets areas that have languished while the downtown surged.

Though he did not offer specific policy proposals, Lennard displayed a welcome enthusiasm for the various commissions that have been assembled to help guide the process. He is naming as a bridge-builder who could unite the city's diverse constituencies behind a common vision. In his campaign literature, he refers to his governing philosophy as "One Winooski."

"You've got to do a lot of listening and that's a strength of mine," Lennard said. "I don't push my biases."

He may listen, but he and his opponents aren't saying much about an issue that's front and center in Winooski — the Pentagon's decision to base F-35 fighter jets at Burlington International Airport in 2019. In a nonbinding referendum that will be on the ballot March 3, residents will be asked whether they want to join a lawsuit fighting the move. An anti-F-35 group petitioned to put the question on the ballot.

Seven local residents, including four from Winooski, sued the U.S. Air Force in federal court last year seeking to prevent the planes from coming to Vermont. They claim the military failed to perform required environmental reviews. Activists had fought for years to block the jets, citing the noise levels caused by their takeoffs and landings. The F-35s so-called "stealth" will affect 6,600 local residents, including many in Winooski.

The article urges the council, which has the authority to make the final decisions, to join the plaintiffs in the lawsuit and to contribute \$7,000 — roughly \$1 per resident — for legal bills. No other communities are currently a part of the

lawsuit, which will likely be in early stages and could take years to resolve.

James Dumont, the plaintiff's attorney, said Winooski would be a welcome addition to the case. The city would not be at the hook for any additional payments, Dumont said.

Debate about the F-35s and the noise they generate has dominated the Winooski Front Pages for months. Last week, 41 local clergy members held a press conference in the city urging Vermont's political leaders to reconsider the basing decision.

"Now that this matter is going to be adjudicated in a court of law, we urge you to reconsider your support for what is a highly questionable endangerment of Vermonters and the imposition of financial hardship on the most economically and socially vulnerable in our neighborhood living in the flight paths of these yet-to-be-fully-tested fighter-bombers," they wrote in a letter.

Robbie Joshua Charron and she hope to persuade Winooski voters to join the lawsuit.

As far as North and Lennard?

Winooski's enoyer candidates have refrained from discussing the issue on their campaign websites, and have responded to questions from the media with lengthy, complicated answers.

North said he does not support joining the lawsuit, viewing it as an unnecessary expense. But he said he would carry out the wishes of the majority of voters if they support it. "Personally, it's more than just advocacy," North said. "We're going to consider it a mandate."

He said he would rather try to persuade Vermont's congressional delegation to force the military to conduct a new environmental review.

Lennard refused to declare a position on the referendum, though he and the rest of the council voted unanimously against the planes in 2013. He said he had questions about the Air Force's plans, but declined to say how he would vote on the ballot article or whether he would support joining the lawsuit if voters approved the article.

He was more focused, he said, on uniting the diverse city.

"I believe felt is a person who isn't tied to one agenda or group," said Keltner. "There's so many different segments of Winooski ... he wants to move forward."

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No Small 'Change': A \$1.5 Million Education Grant Hangs in the Balance

BY ALICIA FRESE

The Burlington School District appears to be regaining its balance after a turbulent 12 months of leadership conflicts and fiscal disorder. Former critics have begun to praise the school board, and interim superintendent Howard Smith said his efforts in the last three months to mend relationships and clean up the books.

But last year's drama did not escape the attention of a foundation that funds a ambitious dollar project in the Burlington and Winooski school systems. When the two districts applied for a second round of funding in the fall, the Massachusetts-based New Merit Foundation postponed a decision "because of the absence of a permanent superintendent of schools and the imminent change to the leadership of the Burlington School Board," according to a statement issued to Seven Days. "Stable and supportive leadership at multiple levels is a critical component of the initiative and is a major factor in our decision to fund work in school districts," warned New Merit senior program officer Jessica Iglesias.

In other words, Burlington and Winooski could both lose out on the next \$1.5 million installment of a \$5.25 million grant that was meant to last one year.

It's not an idle threat — the New Merit put the brakes on a similar initiative at the Bedford School District in Maine, after deciding its superintendent was unprepared. The Bangor Daily News reported that a group called Maine Parents for Transparent Education Policy objected to the initial grant in 2013 on the grounds that it pushed an "agenda" without sufficient input from parents.

Founded in 1990, New Merit is a philanthropic organization whose stated mission is to "inspire transformative change of public education systems across New England."

Here in Chittenden County, the foundation's work has turned an education initiative into a political hot potato. The people who administer the grant have raised some eyebrows by turning their education efforts to vision — and elected school officials — in advance of Town Meeting Day.

The Partnership for Change, launched in 2012 with an initial \$3.35 million, has joined the two school districts together. Now Burlington High School and the Winooski middle and high schools are three years into the project, which aims to remodel the way kids are educated. The end goal is to give students more control



over their course work and evaluate them in a more meaningful way.

A chunk of the grant was used to "try this" for teachers who want to try-out new methods. During the first two years, that meant webinars for educators to reinforce their approaches. Faculty had to apply to be "selected" and most who passed moved forward on the young side and eager to try new ideas.

This year, the partnership funds nine "partner teachers" in Burlington and six in Winooski to maintain their regular teaching schedule — minus one class. They use the extra time to redesign their courses and meet regularly to share ideas about how to give students more autonomy and to ensure that they all master certain essential skills, regardless of level.

At the club in Winooski, students lead independent projects, which have ranged from recording hip-hop albums to writing self-help books. At BHS, students take a two-week course at the end of year on subjects that have included computer game design and farming.

The partnership also works with different organizations to get parents and community members more engaged with the schools. For instance, it developed a "family-friendly" report card with the Parents and Youth for Change to make it easier for New American families to understand their children's progress. Collected emails show how close students are to college readiness.

It's not uncommon for New American immigrants — and their parents — to arrive in the United States without being able to read or write. Even within their daily

English Language Learner classes, the range of literacy is huge. Partner teachers Scott King and Beth Evans who teach ELL at BHS, noted many students were coping by copying diagrams instead of getting the help they needed to catch up.

So the two teachers created a class-called Excell (Excellence for English Language Learners). The newly arrived students spend 90 minutes each day learning "survival English" and adjusting to an American-style of schooling.

ARE YOU JUST AN EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE OR A POLITICAL INITIATIVE?

SCOTT CALHOUN, BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

In an Excell class last week, Joseph Mwakilwa, who arrived from Congo in November, and Cujo Luvio, who came to Burlington from Thailand in September, practiced asking about the weather. At first the word "blizzard" tripped them up, but after googling photos of the word, they got it. Sharing an iPad, they recorded a video in which they took turns saying, "It's a blizzard. I don't like blizzard" and then crinkled it across the room to King. At a nearby table Shabab Kadusse, 16, and his older sister, May, 15, carried on a halting conversation. They arrived from Iraq just five months ago.

This class — which includes mindful-meditation exercises and other less traditional approaches — helps make refugee kids feel comfortable in a foreign academic setting, according to Evans. Oftentimes, which involves focusing on the current moment, through meditation or other techniques, is meant to help people concentrate and regulate emotions.

Once they master 11 categories of conversation — which include weather, shapes, alphabet and introductions — they move on.

Evans and King also visit students in their homes to meet their families and assess their needs. Without the extra time provided by the partnership, the two women said, that would be impossible.

Similar principles of "pedagogy-based learning" apply in a one-on-one language class on loan by partner teachers Melinda Brich-Gasper and Jocelyn Fletcher. If a student fails a vocabulary quiz, instead of moving on to the next assignment, the student signs up for a "call-back" to try again until he or she passes. In other words, the teacher never gives up on a student.

In the same spirit the class is integrated — meaning both former students learn alongside less advanced students. Brich-Gasper and Fletcher have designed an "embroidered banner" system, in which the high schoolers can go above and beyond without being segregated after classrooms.

A few students were drinking cartons of chocolate milk, as Fletcher projected pictures on a screen that showed how many students were "proficient" in certain skills such as pronunciation and vocabulary. "The pretty part about the growth I'm seeing," she told the class.

During the early years, it was the teachers who needed coaching, recalled the partnership's director, Hal Colston, one of three staffers who administered the New Merit grant. This was a lot of effort to be a partnership with a capital "P" and to brand ourselves," and Colston, who founded the Good News Garage, as a result, the "teachers reacted as if we were this third-party entity, independence."

Now, though? "I believe that both districts are owning this work," Colston said. "There is no passion and excitement because they have the space and time to practice their teaching."

Participating teachers agree. At first, Fletcher said, "a lot of us felt really pre-terry-the-sky and philosophical. We had no idea how that would supposed to translate into the classroom." But this year, she noted, "There's been a huge momentum shift."

BURLINGTON NEEDS TO GROW

Burlington is a city without enough housing, and it needs to grow ("Way to Grow," February 11, Off Message). Burlington College Sells Off Much of Its Land," February 5). Green space is good, but it is not the only thing Burlington should be a place that is open and welcoming to all, instead of change or new ideas. In the Old North End, recent development has brought new experiences and opportunities.

Instead of being welcoming, interesting and dynamic, the Burlington College property and the diverse land before it, has been static, barren being watched. With the right mix of housing, business and open spaces, development can turn it into real urban space that brings opportunities, new people and new experiences.

The lack of housing is a crisis that has been avoided for too long. It drives up taxes for homeowners and makes it impossible for people to move here unless they have money. It drives low-income people out of the city at new residents with more money take over what used to be affordable neighborhoods. With the lake and parks to the north and south, Burlington does not need more open space. If you cross North Avenue from the Burlington College property and look east, you will see a vast open space that looks like the Intervale. It often trees, grass, flowers and open views, yet it is part of Burlington.

Burlington College needs an opportunity to grow and thrive as well. Its plan will add to the urban environment and create a nice, interesting and livable space for all of us. I hope it happens.

TOM GARRETT
BURLINGTON

POOR EXCUSE

Major Mike Winklerberg's suggestion in "Way to Grow" (February 11) that his administration is paying attention to other Burlingtonians besides its poorest residents rather arranges, to say the least. His calculation behind increasing the overpriced housing market will somehow become less expensive if his developer friends build more dwellings for the young professionals he wants to attract to his district. Unless there are new controls, it doesn't matter how many apartments and condos are built — the cost will always be high. The fast market does not create affordable rentals. However, it does provide profits for those who end up with the rent.

EMILY JACOBSON
BURLINGTON

BAD AD

Vermont's Independent Voice[®] Why do you allow an American Apparel ad on the back page that is child pornography? Not cool, "Indie pride 101."

MARGARET CERKIN
BURLINGTON

I know that isn't the first time Seven Days has received feedback regarding American Apparel ads. Last week's ad in particular features a girl who looks like 13, lying seductively in bed underwear and训衣. I realize the model is 18 years old, hopefully, but we all know that she was chosen because she looks much younger. Really Seven Days? Really? How seriously responsible is it to perpetuate the sexualization of young girls? Do you need the advertising money that badly to sell out like that? As a woman, and mother of a young girl, I am furious that you find this acceptable.

ANNE-MARIE LAWRENCE
GLOUCESTER

I often look forward to reading your progressive publication, but it was surprised and disappointed to see last week's full-page ad of what looked to me to be a child in her underwear in a position that was unusually suggestive. I am all for the freedom of the press and expression, however, this ad really pushes for the continued sexualization of girls.

For the father of a preteen girl and boy and a social worker who works with many young women and men struggling to develop positive healthy relationships with their bodies. That includes boys formulating the way they think about girls and women. Publishing this type of ad undermines healthy images and ideals. It is really worth the money to continue the sexual slope offference of not only women, but to actually move the focus onto girls!

I look forward to hearing your response and, most importantly, to seeing you act responsibly and remove this ad.

JOHN DRENNON
BURLINGTON

Regarding your back page on February 11, Good guidance: Dev Chetty, ousted CEO of American Apparel?

RICHARD SHIFF
BURLINGTON

No Small 'Change' ENT

to influence the election, and I have challenged them about that repeatedly.

When the North District candidates — current board member Scott Shemski and challenger Matt Below — were asked on Channel 17 whether they supported the Partnership for Growth, Shemski responded with a question of his own: "Are you just an educational initiative or a political initiative?"

Only eight of the 15 candidates participated in the Q&A, an earlier attempt by the partnership to design a job description.

For school board members — without inviting the strong board to weigh in — also raised feathers.

Despite the aggressive manner, others say they still don't understand what the partnership actually does. Matt Morris, who joined the school board in June, said, "They are not very transparent to the board."

Coleman deplored this obfuscation — he said partnership staff frequently attend board meetings and have made repeated attempts to keep members in the loop.

"Having this great guy put up ahead of the curve," said board member Lee Curry, who pointed out that it's helping Burlington to meet new state mandates, such as the requirement that students develop "personalized learning plans." But in stark contrast to the partnership's perspective, Curry said that during the last year, "My concern is that it's lost some momentum." She attributes that to the turnover at the top — former superintendent Jeanne Collins was shown the door last summer, and as yet last week the district didn't have a permanent leader.

Curry and Combs both expressed confidence that Cheng would effectively fill the void and that the rest of the board will rally behind the initiative. Despite the concerns he and others have, Combs said, "There has been a misconception that the board doesn't understand what doesn't care or doesn't support it, but actually I think the board as whole supports the real work of the partnership and supports the work of empowering teachers to do innovative work in the classrooms."

If the partnership is going to be more than a six-year experiment, that support

will be essential. It has never envisioned a project with a start and end date — the whole point is for schools to continue the work even after the grant money goes away, integrating those new approaches into all classrooms.

Coleman estimated that it could take 10 years to make that happen. And a major achievement would mean controversial changes — a total shift to proficiency-based learning, for instance, might mean that some students who are clever to master certain skills would stay in high school longer.

Com and the board will need to fulfill the partnership's goals into its budget. "That's the way to sustain this," he said. "It can't just be this appendage that we keep alive."

Some people, like Curry, contend that doesn't have to cost more. Others aren't so sure. Shemski, who also emphasized that he supports the work the partnership has done in classrooms, said he's concerned about the "expectation that we will spend our own funds" over the grant ends. For him to feel comfortable ponying up, Shemski wants to see proof that the partnership work has actually made a difference.

There's no such hand-wringing on the other side of the Winooski River, where Delton City school officials say they are fully committed to the endeavor. Superintendent Sean McMenamin said his district is at a point "where there's no turning back." They are making plans to minimize practices such as the iLab and middle-school tracking. The five school board members have proven "incredible advocates" for the effort, he said.

Winooski made news at some tumultuous times several years ago, but these days it is bound to the promise of unity. In 2010, it won the Vermont School Boards Association annual Award for Exceptional School Board Leadership. How do they feel about potentially suffering the fallout of the neighboring district's deification?

"We'll be patient with our friends next door, and whatever happens, happen," said board chair Michael Deacon. "I'm not normally an optimist, but everything will work out." Coleman said he expects the foundations will make the final post-election decision this spring. ☐

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Harry F. Ehret
THE 2012 EDITION

Henry F. Street, 80, passed away on Thursday February 10, 2013 at 4:15 in his home in Duxbury surrounded by his loving family. His long hours were spent on Canfield Street in Duxbury until 2008 at 101 Main St. Duxbury, MA. A memorial service will be held on Saturday February 16, 2013 at 2 p.m. at Chapel United Methodist Church. Deacons Dennis and Jim O'Connor will preside. Interment will be at the family's Marion Hill cemetery.

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What Happened to Vermont's Office of the Creative Economy?

BY KEN PICARD

Technically speaking, Vermont's Office of the Creative Economy isn't going away. It just won't be staffed anymore.

That's the word from **LEAH GOSSELIN**, commissioner of the Vermont Department of Economic Development, who confirms that the one-person office — "It's really just a cabinet," she notes — will remain encumbered owing to state budget constraints. The OCE director's position has sat vacant since October 2014, when its last director, **LAWRENCE TORRES**, resigned to become executive director of the Burlington-based maker space **GENERATION**.

"Our goal is to continue the good work Law started," Gosselin says. "But there's a challenge, too, in that 'creative economy' means a lot of different things to different people."

Indeed, the definition of that term has morphed in the four-year life of the OCE. The office was launched in 2011 with the goal of creating jobs and stimulating economic activity among Vermont's "knowledge workers" who practice everything from music to video games to documentary films. The office, born out of the

now-defunct Vermont Film Commission, was meant to broaden the commission's mission beyond just attracting film productions to Vermont. It was initially headed by the VFC's then-executive director, **JON RODRIGUEZ**, which helps explain the office's

early emphasis on filmmaking and other visual arts.

Shortly before Gosselin took her post in 2014 she says, the OCE was moved into the economic development department so it could focus more on "economic drivers"

— that is, businesses with greater growth and having potential than filmmaking, such as software design, gaming, information technology and media development. After Rodriguez resigned in February 2013, he was replaced by Torres, then a 35-year-old entrepreneur with solid tech credentials.

"Law did a fabulous job bridging both those areas and really helped grow our network," Gosselin adds.

The OCE will still exercise all its existing functions on a "limited basis," she says, including the sponsorship of technology-related events such as the Vermont Tech Jam employment fair and HackVt, a 24-hour open-source hackathon. The OED's current staff of 18 will take on other OCE functions.

"We absolutely believe in the emerging creative industries in this state," Gosselin emphasizes, "and this is no way means that we are not going to continue to calculate, support and mentor those industries. I can say that loudly and clearly enough."

She points to Vermont 2030, a statewide comprehensive economic development strategy announced last June that identifies 12 "priority sectors" — including

ECONOMY



LEAH GOSELLIN/TIMES

Vermont Lantern Parades Punctuate the Darkness, Illuminate Community Spirit

BY ETHAN DE SEFFE

Town by town, **SHANNON SAVIOR** is lighting up Vermont — literally — since 2003. The Winooski artist has been one of the guiding lights behind Waterbury's annual River of Light parade, a winter event in which residents prance through town carrying the illuminated homemade lanterns. The project is part sculpture, part performance and wholly community-based, and it's catching on.

This year, Savior will lead similar community events in Montpelier, Burlington, Randolph and Stowe — and parades in the first two communities are up this weekend. Skilled in painting and drawing as well as sculpture, Savior specializes in an unusual field: lanterns. She's currently in residence at Montpelier's Union Elementary School, where she teaches students to make lanterns from various materials. Kindergarteners and first-graders work with balloons, yarn and coffee filters; grades two and three with cotton and wafers; and grades four and five with willow branches and candle sleeves,

the latter donated by Waterbury-based Karting Green Mountain.

Savior, 43, describes herself as "a stitching artist," and her involvement with the lantern parades has educated as much as artistic mentors. A native of Stowe, she collaborates on her lantern projects with her husband, sculptor and Stowson University professor **ANGELA ANDREWS**, and with her friend **MIKE HENRY**, also an artist and teacher.

Henry, an instructor at Waterbury's Thacher-Linck Elementary School, conceived of the first River of Light in 2009 and sought out artists for the project. Lantern parades originated in the United Kingdom,

and Savior, who's from Manchester, England, had prior experience working on such events when she jumped at the chance.

The lanterns that Savior and her students make take many forms: some are figurative artworks shaped like birds or dragons; others are more geometric and geometric ones illustrated from nature and cutout in precision; they can be used as baby-tale illustrations.

The notion of making art accessible through lanterns' practice "I've grown up in a tradition where people should not have to pay for art," she says in a phone conversation with *Seven Days*. "It should not be exclusive to those with money."

With support from arts grants, dinner fund rais, public lantern-craft workshops in each town that she jumpstarts, the parades hold.

Three such workshops held on January weekends at **MONTPELIER CITY ARTS** were "overfilled," says OEC education director **MONICA CRUMPT**. Savior was delighted that more than 400 people turned out for the daylong craft workshops. Once filled with 200, many of the lanterns created there, she hopes, will be featured in Waterbury's annual lantern parade that Saturday, which commemorates the 10th anniversary of the city's incorporation. "I think [Waterbury's] lighting is a wonderful way to connect a broad audience of participants to actually making [art] and having [it] feel like it has a purpose," Savior says. "And a parade is such a wonderful way to gather people."

SAVING THE SKIES The visual art teacher at Union Elementary School where Savior has been leading workshops, attended Waterbury's River of Light parade in 2014 and was inspired to create *Shower* about a residence. By its conclusion, all 450 audience

IT'S EMPOWERING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROCEDE THROUGH THE STREETS AT NIGHT, CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY AND STRANGERS.

GWEN SAVIOR

arts and culture, food systems, and batch and software development — as prime targets for state resources.

Torres isn't convinced. Though he readily admits that some of his concerns might be interpreted as "soot grapes," he says he doesn't believe the OCE ever got the support it deserved from the administration.

"I do feel that there was a much, much bigger opportunity than the governor ever gave a chance to have at [there] was ever communicated to him," he says.

Torres, who runs the office for about a year and a half on a \$10,000 budget, suggests that his vision of Vermont's 21st-century creative economy — as "essentially a freelance economy" — didn't jibe with the Agency of Commerce & Community Development's more traditional notion of economic activity.

Predressing is an artist Torres knows well in the cruiser of LOCAL 64, a crowsourcing and community events space in downtown Montpelier that caters to large parts to the capital region's nontraditionals.

and freelance workforce. By contrast, he characterizes the state's vision of creative economy as looking more like a standard 40-hour-workweek job with salary and benefits in a bricks-and-mortar setting.

Torres says discussions of how the state might broaden its definition never gained traction. "There simply wasn't the right political climate to go out on that limb," he says. "At a time of tough budgets and new leadership, when the governor was single-handedly focused on health care reform, there was a lot of reason to be wary."

JAP CRAVEN cofounder of

KIRKLAND COUNTY PRODUCTIONS agrees. The former filmmaker suggests there's a "huge unexplored and undeveloped potential for Vermont's creative economy" and that state government should play a bigger role. Craven recognizes that Vermont can't compete with neighboring Massachusetts and New York, which contribute 25 percent and 30 percent, respectively, toward budgets of films shot in those states. Still, he says, that Vermont could make things

easier for arts nonprofits, which are only marginally funded and taxed on the tickless they sell.

"I had several brainstorming sessions with Lars [Torres]," Craven says. "I liked Lars, and he meant well, but he had no real budget, no real authority and no real portfolio to make things happen. Without those, the best anyone could do is be a cheerleader."

Torres strikes a similar note. "I didn't feel authentic engaging Vermont's creatives and saying, 'Tell me what you need' and then not being able to deliver anything but networking," he says. "Networking is important. But it can't be the bulk of a state employee's, which leads to apprehension, job. We need to deliver real results."

When asked about the OCE listing achievements, Gorsuch was reluctant to give credit to her department.

"Our role is to encourage an ecosystem," she says. "We're a little like the gardener who pours the water to make sure the plants are protected and growing. But they're the ones doing the growing." □

Contact karen@vermontgov.org

ART



Hanukkah Bazaar at UVM

will have had two lantern-making sessions, and they will carry their finished works in Montpelier's upcoming parade. It, too, celebrates an anniversary: the school's 75th.

Referring to last year's parade that echo Brady's, "It was such a unique experience to be walking through the night-time with hundreds of people carrying lights," she says. "It was just magical to see so many people come together for this celebration of art and community. It was pretty powerful."

Fragile as they are, Sosner and her students' lanterns can last a long time. But the art also spotlights in a more ephemeral art form. Star-gazing is an Indian folk art in which materials such as colored sand and grains are used to create geometric patterns on a floor; the finished works resemble Tibetan mandalas. Sosner has completed two Vermont residencies in making one in 2004 at Burlington's integrated Arts Academy at 110 Whistler, and the other in 2012 at Essex Middle School.

The lanterns themselves are upcycled, hand-dyed paper mache. Sosner is drawn to such imperfections, saying viewers who are physically present at each event bear witness to their artistic power. "A seat for the sunsets" she calls them as art.

More than that, Sosner continues, "It's also empowering for young people, having the opportunity to process through the streets at night, feeling a sense of ownership of their artwork while collaborating with friends family and strangers in a safe, supportive environment."

Four the teacher, Sosner sees the lanterns as a kind of "generative" project. After a student builds one of the yellow-and-white-flitter "paper mache lanterns," she says, "they can build anything. The lantern is just a beginning; once people start to grasp that the possibilities are really exciting." □

Contact sthen@essex.k12.vt.us

INFO

UVM Hanukkah Bazaar lanterns parades Wednesday February 16, 6 p.m., in downtown Montpelier or starting at lanterns parades 10:30 a.m. Friday Feb 21, 3:30 p.m., in Church Street, Burlington winter parades Friday March 21, Hanukkah lantern-parade Friday April 12, greenlantern.com

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Street Art Climbs the Walls at Middlebury College

BY STAN CHIANG-WARREN

ART



See Times Square on the Constitution "Andy Warhol's War"

On a subfreezing afternoon in early February, Eric Fine stepped down from a tall ladder inside Middlebury College's **MANNER CONTEMPORARY**, where he'd been painting the indoor entrance to the school's art museum with his signature colorful typography. A U.S. native who currently resides in San Francisco, Fine is "one of the most set movement's most established names," according to the *Guardian* put it last year.

Fine got his start as a graphic artist more than 20 years ago, "tagging things and generally being a little wild," he confides, but along with a handful of other international street artists, he has branched out since that's brought him all the way to the walls of contemporary art galleries and museums.

"The stuff I produce now is far more thoughtful and far less wild," Fine insists. "Graffiti takes something away for the most part, and street art and the stuff that I do adds something. I like it."

Eric regularly circles the globe painting walls or commissioning, and he makes a culpable urban art tour and prints. He catapulted to international fame when British Prince Charles David Cameron gave one of his paintings to the Obamas during a visit in 2010. Fine also spent five years working with the better-known and more soberish English street artist Banksy.

The occasion for Fine's stop at Middlebury was the university's major spring exhibition "Outside in Art of the Street," organized by chief curator **CHRIS DORNHOFF** and museum preparator **CHRIS**

HARRIS. The exhibit runs through April 19 and features works by 16 internationally recognized street artists or street teams, including Basquiat, JR, Blek, Blu, Faile, Shepard Fairey, Swoon and Judith Supina, along with documentary photographs by Henry Chalfant. Most of the works are on loan from private collectors, but a few pieces have been acquired for the museum's permanent collection.

"They've just torn down all of the postures of what it means to be an artist," said Danielia of the participants, as she gave Seven Days a sneak preview of the show. "That's why I think it's fascinating."

THE STUFF I PRODUCE NOW IS FAR MORE THOUGHTFUL AND FAR LESS SELFISH.

BEN EWING

Why exhibit street art? New England college museum? "We thought it was important to do a show about a contemporary development like the art world," Dornhoff said. "And many of the artists share have the same social issues as our students. They want to stop global warming. They are themselves in against the system, but it's a very interesting phenomenon, because they've been completely absorbed by the system. And that's part the complexity of the art world."

"Right now, the street art movement is one of the biggest movements in the world of art," Marney noted. "There are so many artists out there. A lot of people walk around with blenders on, but whatever you can visualize, you see it. Even in Middlebury you can walk down the street and if you look, you'll see stickers on signs. People don't realize it, but they're walking by a work of art."

The journey of street art from the "outside in" is, Marney noted, curiously a hot topic. In this context, "it" means its position on gallery and museum walls, and the broader achievement of art-world legitimacy. And the artists themselves. Danisio pointed out, "all have a different take on it."

"Some of them have really been appreciated, and some copy that," she said. "Some of them use that form, perhaps, to advance the causes they believe in. There's a general lack of authority involved."

The exhibit includes prints and paintings. There's also a screen wall covered in white-on-black posters created from Brooklyn, which Marney transported himself from the studios of Jude and Swoon, and the indoor wall that Fine painted especially for this exhibit, titled "Andy Warhol's War."

This was Fine's first trip to Vermont. Normally, he's commissioned to do work in urban centers, he said. The day after he completed his wall at Middlebury, he would head home to San Francisco for a brief respite, then to Cuba. Then London. Then Chicago. Then London again. Fine said he wasn't quite sure where Vermont was before he arrived at the height of a

midwinter blizzard, but he claimed to be "happy to be here."

"Lucky, we're here at a really cold time," he deadpanned. "We get to see extremes, which is good. If we came and it was just another winter somewhere, it'd probably be like, 'We tried out with a strong 'Wow if we get here and it's like Rock! We had a really place I've been to; all risks at better.' Oh, and I've got a cold! I've got the complete Vermont experience."

The indoor wall Fine was commissioned to paint presented other challenges. His first thoughts on seeing it, he admitted with a laugh were, "Those windows are big, and we can get out of that coherence!"

Fine had originally planned to do a pixelated Andy Warhol portrait that after encountering the wall, he reverted to his original typography.

"One of the things that street artists and graffiti artists do very well is to think on our feet, and kind of work out what but for the moment, the wall and the people that are going to look at it," he said.

What should the cerebral wall convey to Vermonters?

"It's kind of happiness, a little burst of color, a ray of sunshine," Fine said. ☐

Contact: stan@vermontjournal.com

INFO

"Outside in: Art of the Street" through April 19 at the Middlebury College Museum of Art. Opening and talk by curators Danielia Harris and Marney Marney Thursday February 18 at 6:30 p.m. museum.middlebury.edu

QUICK LIT: FREUD'S DAUGHTER TELLS ALL

MARINA COFFEY of Putney has written a novel of psychological drama (quoting Freud) from the perspective of Anna Freud, the youngest daughter of the father of psychoanalysis. *Hysterical*, Anna Freud's story is fiction framed as a memoir that Anna has passed down to her friend of 57 years, as long as not to unveil it until Anna's passing.

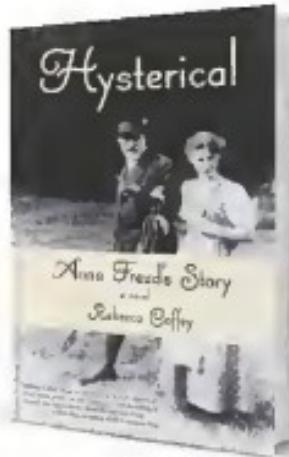
In reality Coffey tells us in her introduction the Sigmund Freud Archives may have such a document—but if so the private foundation with legalities to Freud has elected to keep it under wraps.

But there's OK, because Coffey is Vermont Public Radio commentator and contributor to magazines such as *Scientific American*, so she can tell us research as attested in three pages of bibliography. *Hysterical* is an engrossing story of Anna's struggle to become herself despite the machinations of her controlling father, complete with a convincing reiteration of the Freud household and its tensions. Coffey suggests that, despite Sigmund Freud's love and the economic comforts he gave his offspring, this family went through hell. Much of it was the psychiatrist's doing.

Early in the book, in a scene set in Anna's adult years, she receives a warning about her father from Otto Gross (1877-1920), a psychiatrist living in Munich who believes bisexuality is our survival condition and "health is the ultimate self expression." At a meeting in a cafe the bric-a-brac dispels Anna's feelings of being sexually perverted, calling her father the poorest, but most caressing words, like those of Hanns Fleischmann, so logically undeveloped.

The reader follows Anna and her siblings through their early days as happy, adventurous children into various conflicts as their father gains prominence as a man of letters and a luminary in the new field of psychoanalysis. At first, Anna listens at the door where Sigmund does his work, and then to her parents as he's invited in to be psychoanalyzed himself! She can't resist; it's here that the drama of the book plays out.

In that now famous room full of the curiosities and antiques Freud saw as symbolic readers see something of Freud's failed relationship with Carl Jung play out in a sparring match between the two as they psychanalyse each other. We learn that others may be honest in psychoanalysis, as both the analysand and the therapist have agendas—and we're given reason to believe that, nonetheless,



psychoanalysis can sometimes get things very right.

We experience the stark contrasts of a household in which the maidservant is so depressed she can't get out of bed while father and daughter take delight in Jewish humor (the book is sprinkled with jokes that typically enhance the themes). And we wonder if in fact, there is a real life in the Freud home—or a victim of rape.

All this plays out while Anna tries to resolve her relationships with her father, her siblings, her sexuality and her future as the one chosen to advance her father's work. Further complications are Anna's debilitating "hysteria" and her father's refusal to accept her sexual preferences. Naming the book in first person, Anna conveys a forceful desire to please her father—even in analysis. "Say them against my apparent instinct for self-destruction," she says in a session in which she has given her father a response he finds unacceptable. "The last thing in the world I actually needed that very night, was an analytic session even more unpredictable than the entire art had so far proven to be."

Hysterical is a fine piece of art, clever and realistic dialogue. Coffey also

offers enough multicultural language and references to convince the reader this is a cosmopolitan family without throwing a monocultural reader off the chase.

There is a buzz in the pacing at the end of the novel, where the writer seems to think we need to know everything that transpired in the final years of Anna's life. It more usually would have been less jolting, as we have come to expect a closer more revealing relationship with Coffey's protagonist.

Still, it is a novel that convincingly explores our role as self-examiners of the mind; that wrinkle our grey matter, and maybe even our souls. I don't know whether *Hysterical* will make readers more likely to sign up for psychoanalysis or to run away. On either count upon finishing the book, expect to have a personal reaction to the words with which Freud cynically closed a session: "We have turned deeply today."

L.E. SMITH

INFO

Hysterical: Anna Freud's Story by Marina Coffey (see *W.W. Norton*, 382 pages, \$16.95) www.wwnorton.com

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PETER AUDRY

PETER AUDRY is a scientist at the Centre for Coastal Studies. He writes the *COASTAL STOKE* column in *Australis*, a bi-annual magazine produced by the Huon Valley joint venture environmental consultancy company as part of a local marine science series called *the Huon*. He is available at peter.audry@pwc.com.

Once upon a time
there was a noodle-armed freak who
drew pictures
of whatever and anything that rose
up into the
catastrophic dog days
of its
imagination.

Like a werewolf
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Roger That

Hey, Jeremiah — could you pick me up at Winooski and take me to my girlfriend's condo in Essex? I'm at McKeon's!

"Roger, Roger," I replied. "I should be there in about 10."

Roger was a new regular customer of mine, and I can't tell you how much pleasure I took from answering to his rude requests with "Roger, Roger." He'd been using me for about six months, at least once or twice a week, to shuttle between bars and clubs. He was employed in the skilled trades, mostly carpentry and painting, from the evidence of his work clothes. Like many a seasonal construction worker, he told me that, if called on, he could adequately perform most any job on the site. And he was a drinker — still young enough to pull off the day-working/high-living thing without totally breaking down.

One of Roger's quirks had to do with how he paid me the fare. My protocol with all my customers — regular or random — is to just write out my payment in advance while we arrive at the destination. For some reason, Roger liked to pay up as soon as he settled into the cab's shotgun seat. And he wouldn't hand the cash to me; rather, wordlessly, he'd place rolled-up bills in the cup holder between the seats. This always ended for us the way a John loves money for a hooker: on the desk or nightstand — a discreet set, as to hide the sexual commercial nature of the transaction. In my event, I'm nothing if not flexible, if that was the way the guy wanted to pay me, why not?

I pulled around the Winooski traffic circle and came to a stop in front of

McKeon's. As usual, Roger came out in less than two minutes (which I appreciated). Dripping into the seat beside him, he said, "I forgot to ask, but could we stop at McDonald's on the way out there? I'm fucking famished, and the girlfriend wants me to pick up food for her also."

"This has to do as a matter of policy as I pointed before replying, the food and necessarily all that fuel, and, although I could charge waiting time, stopping along the way for any significant period is a sucker basic for me. I accumulate money when the transmission is in drive, not park. But it wasn't a very busy night, and the guy was, at this point, a bona fide regular, so..."

"Sure, we could make a stop at Mickey D's," I said.

We sped along Route 15, passing the Fort before hitting a red light at State Street. For years, I told customers that the street was named after the woman who, in the day, operated a brothel just past the corner of Kellogg Road. (This was the local received wisdom.) Oh, the embellishments I come up with on each retelling! That is, until some Seven Days reporter did a story about the real State Street that revealed the brothel tale to be a shameful myth. Phooey, I thought as I read the article, reluctantly absorbing the debunking. It guy only has so many colorful tales in his repertoire.

We pulled into the McDonald's across from the fengonoids. I added, "Drive-thru, or are ya going in?"

"I'm going in," Roger replied, and I grabbed a parking spot I didn't see him again for more than 30 minutes, or half the third quarter of the Celtics game playing in the radio. So, satisfied food.

As we took off for the short hop to Brackley Road, Roger added, "Did I give you enough?"

"You mean money? Actually, you didn't pay me yet."

"What are you talking about? I put the money in the drink holder; like I always do. Twenty-five bucks."

"Um, I don't think you did, brother!"

I turned to see Roger's face contorted. He looked nearly uncontrollable.

"You're trying to rob me!" he screamed. "Call the fucking police! Right now; tell the cops..."

"Roger, relax, man. Let me count my money. I know I had \$90 dollars before I picked you up."

I pulled over my mind doing tap-dogs. Had he paid me? I've well into middle age, the gray matter a grayer than it once was. Maybe I'd just spaced out? I quickly counted the money. Ninety-three it was.

"Listen, I don't think you paid me, Roger. I know you usually pay me when you get into the cab, but you just didn't this time."

"Call the cops!" he retorted. "I paid you the goddamn money!"

At that moment, my sense of autism was clear de-stabilized. I had never seen this side of the man, but I intuited he was

just confused, and not actually trying to score me out of the fare. Not that his motivation wasn't disturbing.

"Roger, don't worry about it," I said. "I don't think you paid me, but we're not gonna fight about it. Let me just drive you to Brackley."

My customer fumed for the five-minutes, still convinced that I had tried to double-charge him. He stayed out when we reached his girlfriend's place. I didn't hear from him again until he called a month later.

"Jeremiah, this is Roger. There's a guy here at Murray's — you know, the bar across from the train station. He needs a ride into town. Can you see me get him?"

"Sure, thanks for the referral. I'll be there in 20 and, listen — you know you can still call me, right? We just had a misunderstanding last month, that's all."

"Uh, sure. No problem. I've just been out of work for about a month. That's why I haven't called you — I haven't been going out. Don't get the gears!"

I could easily have dropped this guy from my roster, but I trust my instincts. I think that accident at McDonald's was just Roger having a bad night. One thing, though: The days of cap-holder payments are over. □

All these stories are true, though names and locations may be altered to protect privacy.

INFO

Jeremiah is a twice-married cabaret that can also be visited at www.jeremiasjazz.com. To book an appointment, email hackle@vermontcabs.com.

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Dear Cecil,

I've been waiting for autonomous cars to become a reality. But I'm wondering how much revenue will be lost when there are no more speeding tickets, traffic violations, parking violations or probably quite a few other kinds of fines that I haven't even considered. How much money will state and local governments lose when traffic tickets become a thing of the past?

Jeff Gripe, White Plains, N.Y.

What I'm wondering is why you're even thinking about this. Driverless cars may well reshape the urban world — for one thing, autonomous car sharing could wipe out taxes, leases and Uber in a single swoop — and you're focusing on parking tickets? Could you possibly have picked a more boring aspect of this development to mope over? But since you asked, yes: This particularly irritating form of revenue extraction would be mostly eliminated in the near future, unless otherwise.

As it stands, revenue reflects a lot of what New York City government does: a million in 2012. Roughly 22 percent were for tinted windows or seat belt violations (comprising a rather unnecessary usage of what New Yorkers are doing in their cars), but the rest were for infractions that wouldn't exist if cars were automated: speeding, phone use while driving, etc. Presumably, this is an incredible boon for

states and municipalities — the NYPD's recent "bad-att style" migrant auto blitz cost the city \$10 million a week in parking-ticket money. It's hard to find an unassisted nationwide total for ticket-fine revenue, but (for example) Virginia rolled in roughly \$97 million on speeding tickets in 2010, which is up to a population of 5.59 million and you get a national figure of about \$2.7 billion. If autonomous cars make that sum just go away, budget conversations are likely to follow.

Google the apparent front-runner in the race to driverless cars, claim their increased efficiency (in part because they can travel in a tightly spaced, covering, reducing drag) will ultimately cut commuting waste by 90 percent. Per hour, the annual savings out of 1.9 billion gallons of gas and 4.8 billion commuting hours for a total value of \$164 billion. Do not assume I completely buy the details where Google is concerned — two of the last five times I trusted Google Maps I spent a

lot longer in traffic than I'd intended — but undoubtedly the government would lose some money here, too. The current federal tax on gasoline is 18.4 cents a gallon, and the average state tax is 23.5 cents a gallon, so 1.9 billion gallons saved means a \$389 million annual loss in federal tax revenues and a loss of \$447 million for the states.

On the other hand, the total yearly economic cost of all U.S. motor vehicle accidents dwarfs both those figures — in 2010 it was \$277 billion. Driverless cars would probably have the occasional accident, but the most dangerous factors could be exacerbated — especially drunk driving. Of the roughly 35,000 traffic fatalities each year in the U.S., about 10,000 result from alcohol impairment. On a pure dollar-cost basis level, that's a total loss of something like \$19 billion in future earnings that the government won't get to collect on.

Additionally, the government savings on public transportation would be huge. The Chicago Transit Authority system gets about \$700 million in rental public subsidies; much of this could be eliminated if bus service, which runs up major labor costs, were replaced by privately operated fleets of driverless vehicles. Other places on the balance sheet: the disabled and elderly would have greater mobile earnings potential because transportation would



be easier, and better Medicaid and Medicare dollars would be spent on those involved in car accidents.

The journey from a Google engineer's wet dream to reality is a long one, of course, and we've still got a ways to go before any of these considerations become relevant. Some don't think we'll ever get there. Elon Musk, founder of Tesla, is working on a driverless car, too, but he doesn't think the human element can be totally eliminated — his vision would be more of an autopilot feature. Google's autonomous car has covered 700,000 miles without incident in and around the Bay Area, but the programmers have had to edit a lot of data specific to local roads — it wouldn't work if you dropped it in the

wilds of Tokyo. Google has preempted one obvious objection by saying it should be liable for any deaths it causes, but plenty of unresolved questions remain. How will the car choose in a no-win situation — say, when it has to hit either a pedestrian or another car? Is there a clear code to get the car to drive faster? Or can you trick the software into speeding by telling it your wife is about to die?

But if you're asking whether driverless cars are, on balance, socially worth pursuing, the answer is, Duh. It'll rarely take a while for it to play out, but if this thing winds up being half the big deal it could be, the change in traffic ticket revenue is going to look like a rounding error.

INFO

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WATER WARRIOR



James Eklund coring on Lake Champlain

Lake Champlain's loudest advocate is also its most divisive

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

A year ago, Governor Peter Shumlin sheathed Vermont — and the nation — by devoting his entire State of the State address to Vermont's water problems. This year, he's poked another problem that has reached crisis proportions: the poor water quality in Lake Champlain. Despite significant investments, the governor conceded that Vermont's signature attraction is threatened by unchecked invaders. Thick blue-green algae masses, sometimes containing toxic cyanobacteria, choke the water, inspiring hope and despair in summer months.

As problems will do, the governor included good news with the bad, ruffing off a long list of water-quality champions: Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, the Lewis Creek Association, the Franklin Watershed Committee, the Lake Champlain business owners, farmers, and the "Saints of Lake Champlain" — i.e., Patrick Leahy.

Notably missing from the list: James Eklund of Lake Champlain International, a nonprofit devoted to preventing "invasive, undesirable, undesirable" water in Vermont's largest lake. Under Eklund's leadership, LCI has grown from an annual fishing derby into a formidable powerhouse for water-quality reform.

Eklund is a different breed of environmental advocate, preparing to speak for Vermonters who do downstream from the Montpelier "wastie." He convenes a mailing list of some 25,000 neighbors, scientists and other concerned citizens, and aims to great effect. After a recent look at the US Coast Guard station in Burlington sent a massive 300 gallons of sewage into Burlington Bay a few days before the popular Peppin Plunge, Eklund sent an email to his list with the eye-grabbing headline: "Burlington Peppin? Plunge... into Pepp?"

To his advantage, Eklund is a fearless crusader for water quality, willing to speak truth to power — even if that poses off political officials and establishment environmental groups at the press.

In his defense, Eklund is, at best, a

lascivious ideologue. Some doubt his motivations, wondering privately if he's funded more by corporate telecommunications. Several clean-water advocates refused to speak on the record about Eklund or his supporters, fearing retribution from Eklund or his supporters.

But plenty of his peers is the political world, though, Eklund is all of the above: a tea-lea-advocate and a shrewd master of press and politics, who is alternately Machiavellian and nose-dad.

"The water-quality crisis in Lake Champlain is beyond the pale of below political speech," said Pittibeth Berry, the former commissioner of the Department of Fish & Wildlife, "and Jones has the courage to say the things that need to be said — even if they're hard to hear because the way he says them is."

Deadline Advocate

Elsewhere as he can be, Eklund is a comic spot. The name he's championed is unlikely as something as long lost, dead, and gone as Montpelier water. Politicians know they have no chance but to tackle down on water-quality measures, a 2006 forecast from the Conservation Law Foundation graded the Environmental Protection Agency into remaking Vermont's plan for Lake Champlain. Now the feds are holding the state's feet to the fire.

The EPA says Vermont needs to cut phosphorus pollution, which fuels blue-green algal growth in warmer months, by 36 percent — and way more than that in some portions of the lake. The agency said last fall that Vermont's plan to scrub that pollution, outlined over months, didn't go far enough.

The EPA made higher-ups in state government have to answer for the fact that the lake isn't any better despite years of spending and political rhetoric. Last summer on Lake Champlain, the small and relatively shallow lake just west from Montpelier Bay, residents watched helplessly as thick, greenish sludge washed up on the lake into October. In Franklin County, St. Albans

stateboard member Bruce Chittenden told the *St. Albans Messenger*: "This is a drain that can't stop flowing." One resident, with a camp at St. Albans Bay wrote to the newspaper saying the digital bloom were at "crisis level, and should be treated as such. Not unlike a hurricane, we need emergency management."

The first of the winter's five after all the meetings, draft proposals and number-crunching, Vermont doesn't have a strategy to clean up the most impaired section of the lake. The EPA estimates Vermont needs to cut phosphorus pollution into the Missisquoi Bay by 35 percent in order to restore the bay's health. When a staff scientist from the Department of Environmental Conservation spoke to a local conservation group in 2003, he concluded his talk with a cartoon showing two scuba divers in front of a blackboard. Bewildered midway through a complex equation was the phrase, "Then a miracle occurs." The cartoon was captioned, "I think you should be more explicit here in step one."

It's a point that Ehlers has been harping on for months. When other environmental advocates lined up at a statehouse press conference to throw their weight behind Ehlers' plan, as revealed in his address, Ehlers wasn't present so he believes he purposefully wasn't invited. Instead, he turned to the press, where in an op-ed in the *Burlington Free Press*, Argosy had chosen the chief executive for cleaning phosphorus over science.

"We need and want his plan to succeed," wrote Ehlers of Ehlers' latest raft of proposals. "But, sadly, it won't."

Working the Angles

Ehlers had to leave Calais early last Thursday morning to make it to the Statehouse in time to testify. "There's a lot of political intrigue right now of me being booted out of the choice," he said while bunting down Interstate 89 in his blue jeep, which he describes as a "piece of shit." His soldiers joined with paper sheathed the helmet with ice-fishing equipment.

"I didn't get into this to be politically popular," he said, referring to the gloomy sense of a likely bizarre morning: "I do what I do to make a difference, not to make friends."

Once in Montpelier, he maneuvered the jeep into a private parking spot reserved for Associated Industries of Vermont — Ehlers serves on the pre-growth group forestry committee and calls them "friends." He gathered up his files — and tucked in an ice-fishing auger — and clomped his way past the Statehouse. Even in Vermont's equal capital, he stuck out like a sore thumb in faded Converse jeans, a flannel shirt and Soda.

He hunkered up a narrow flight of stairs to the House Committee on Parks, Wildlife and Water Resources, where for the next hour and a half he'd weigh in on H.25 one



Aaron Ehlers testifies before the House Committee on Parks, Water and Natural Resources.

of two major water-quality bills under consideration.

In its current form, the bill is sprawling. Large sections focus on agriculture defining the ways farmers should behave toward phosphorus runoff, and, for the time being, threatening expulsion from the tax break commonly known as "farmer tax," which taxes farmland on its agricultural value rather than as developed land. Other sections drill down into wastewater permits, lake planning and timber harvesting.

The bill also proposes the creation of the Clean Water Fund — though no one knows how it would be funded since committee members attack Ehlers' recommendation for an additional fee on fertilizer.

Ehlers spent much of the hearing going page by page through the bill, recounting results to the language and version he likes. He lashed plenty of big-power suggestions. Require the use of so-called "best management practices" on farms statewide. Mandate wastewater retrofits on existing commercial properties of a half acre or more. Don't just ban the spreading of legal manure on farm fields, ban it outright.

As his testimony went on, you could see why Ehlers is viewed as a political outsider. Like a dyed-in-the-wool hippie, he excelled the virtues of composting toilets. He spoke about the possibility of capturing

and converting phosphorus into energy with a series of community digester systems. He envisioned floating, man-made islands on Lake Champlain, upon which bags that could convert phosphorus in the water into plant matter.

Then, just as suddenly, Ehlers veered into the summary of the billmakers, arguing in favor of public-private partnerships and against handing any more responsibility or resources over to the existing bureaucracy charged with enforcing water-quality standards, the agencies of agriculture and natural resources.

Personally, I would like to adapt his idea: pretty much, lock, stock and barrel," said committee vice-chair James McCallagh (D-Wilson), although he conceded that some of them might be too far-reaching to be feasible.

"The hearing is from left and right, Republicans and Democrats," Ehlers told the committee members. "People are just fed up. This issue has been in the hands of an agency that denied there was a problem before a breakout ... There have been green government failures."

"Missisquoi Bay is burning," he said. "St. Albans Bay is burning. Lake Champlain is burning."

It's a metaphor he's used repeatedly in recent weeks. The state of Vermont is facing the equivalent of a house fire, and

quelling over loads of water instead of breaking out the fire hose.

'A Big, Big Personality'

With Ehlers' testimony no longer, members of the Vermont-Chittenden Advisory Committee on Lake Champlain sat on, which Ehlers sits on, were checking their faces with shade in the governor's ceremonial office.

Ehlers dashed in at the last moment, agitatedly late. After part a few minutes, Ehlers and his side table carrying one of the office and doors the ready-to-use�, lacking as if they were in a hurry.

Back out in the hall, Ehlers strolled up to a millipede, his blue eyes popping with the same kind intensity from ear to ear, he explained what was in an instant — but the governor caught him off for a handshakes and positioned himself next to Ehlers for the group photo.

That's when the governor rapidly whispered to his ear: "We need to get you back on the reservation."

Ehlers looked abashed, proud of the thinnily veiled compliment, which acknowledged both his importance and his segue status.

What makes Ehlers so controversial?

For starters, he's kind of a political free-lancer — which is bigger than his resume according to Ross Greenwood, the water program director and staff scientist at Vermont Natural Resources Council — doesn't jive particularly well with the political landscape as robust legislation and water-quality

Water Warrior

advocacy analyze the merits of "agricultural agricultural practices" and buffer zones.

"I tend to work very deeply on specific issues," said Greenwood, an engineer by training. Eihens' approach, she said, doesn't necessarily align with "where we're all trying to get to. I've tried to tell him, 'You've got some great ideas, but let's hear you get specific.' It's not his nature."

And then there's his demeanor:

"He's a big, big person," said Anthony Ieropoulos, formerly a senior staff attorney with CLC, one of a small number of organizations Eihens and he believe in for its work on environmental issues. "It's hard to be a big person in a small state and not have detractors over time."

"Jones is all about shock and awe on behalf of the environment," acknowledged Bob Fischer, a nearby Fischer serves alongside Eihens on the CAC, and is the chief operator at Montpelier's wastewater treatment facility. Eihens' almost obsessive focus on sewage and wastewater overflow risks some plain operators. Fischer said, has most known that he's not pointing the finger at technicians fact-taking about a bigger problem of funding, accountability and enforcement.

That said, "We don't always agree on his methods," said Fischer.

But Ieropoulos, and Eihens' other admirers, believe that Eihens' approach is an important one in the advocacy world. The clean-water community Ieropoulos said, has never lacked for critics who, at the least, pull these contrasts toward more waterless rhetoric.

"The attacks at the tea-party niche in not the best way to get invited to a lot of the fun tea parties," said Ieropoulos. "But if that's the role you have to play, that's the role you have to play. I've respected Jones for doing that, when he always knew he had a politically easier time if he were less assertive and vocal and passionate."

It's a rule that could make environmental environmentalists — if they're willing to learn how to wrangle a shrug.

"The advocacy community has often struggled with recognizing the strategic value of each other's respective roles," said Berry, who now works at the Vermont Community Foundation. "If you consider your position to be more 'moderate' than Jones and CLC, then you should use his work as a tremendous value in pulling the conversation in your direction."

From Long Island to GCI

The oldest of three boys, Eihens grew up on Long Island where it was still somewhat

rustic. His maternal grandmother took over much of the child-rearing after his parents separated, and Eihens and his brothers spent many summers at her cabin in rural Big Indian, NY, hunting and fishing and tracking hawks in the woods. The hawks would collect piles upon full of snakes and hawk-ham by night.

"All of those things are highly illegal, right?" he recalled with a chuckle.

As a teenager, Eihens spent summers at a U.S. Coast Guard station on the Maine coast. That led to a travel scholarship to attend Villanova University. The last in his family

he started a guiding service using a nickname he'd earned on the ski slopes: Uncle Asimmon. In 1987, Eihens earned the guide of the year award from the Vermont Outdoor Guide Association. The plaque still hangs in the main case in his uncluttered basement — a spot he calls the "Rabbit Hole." Meanwhile, he had started contributing stories to Vermont Outdoors magazine, and found he had a knack for writing.

He took over as editor at the publication in 1998.

It was around this time that Eihens started working with Lake Champlain

\$40,602 in revenue and paid him \$40,569 in 2002, the most recent year for which tax documents for LCI are available. Under his leadership, the organization has branched out well beyond the derby — which has grossed \$100,000 to \$200,000 a month a year — to advance its clean-water and ocean restoration sponsor fishing membership programs for at-risk kids, and provide grants to after-school programs to introduce more kids to fishing. Picking up on Vermont's healthy movement, Eihens single-handedly jump-started a conversation about Lake Champlain as a source of food, now both working with the Vermont Fresh Network to get more chefs interested in sheet cooking fish from the lake.

Another idea — for a "seaweed-friendly" certification program that prepares akin to LEED certification for efficiency, or Energy Star for appliances — spun off into a separate for-profit company.

Eihens has made a name for himself calling out waterways and sewage overflows, which he does religiously through the LCI e-newsletter. And he's become the go-to guy for Vermonters who might otherwise be wary of approaching water-quality violations themselves. He sets complaints directly to the Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets, which is charged with enforcing water-quality rules on farms. He'll also the agency in on any number of potentially problematic situations, among them, cows in sewage, manure piled near water or farmers spreading manure imprudently.

Luanne Doherty, the deputy director of agricultural resource management at the agency, says she doesn't mind the interaction. "We've always been caught in the poor wheel, usually I suppose."

For many years, Eihens worked the equivalent of two full-time jobs running LCI and editing Vermont Outdoors. He stepped away from the editorial in 2005 — but not before he used his considerable influence in Vermont Outdoors to file up to 80 percent of the state environmentalists with whom he batsches today. The man runs the Champion Lands fund, in which the state acquired a broad swath of northern forestland from a former paper company.

Eihens led the charge among generators who were unhappy with the terms of the local Power Purchase agreement on issue since Eihens and his supporters set up a non-profit. He suggested that spring is a good time for the annual fishing derby. The plan was to spend a few years building the organization back up, then hand it off to the next director.

In the year since,

Eihens' work at LCI has gotten from a volunteer, temporary gig into an all-consuming job that generated



James Eihens in the "Rabbit Hole"

JAMES HAS THE COURAGE TO SAY THE THINGS THAT NEED TO BE SAID — EVEN IF THEY'RE HARD TO HEAR BECAUSE OF THE WAY HE MIGHT SAY THEM.

PATRICK BERRY

to attend college. Eihens had to scrap his first choice of majors — physics — because the Navy wouldn't pay for a five-year course of studies. Instead, he studied political science and, upon graduating, went into active duty.

"I was going into the service because I thought it was a great way to make a difference," he said. Instead, he had what he described as an "unpleasant experience" and disengaged. He left the service at 25 and headed north — first to Pennsylvania, then to Vermont.

A series of odd jobs followed. Eihens worked as a logger until an accident badly injured a friend. He tried his hand at organic vegetable farming and failed. "It's impossible to make money growing vegetables in this state unless you have a trust fund," he declared like night for a whale in a middle-school science classroom.

Determined to have his own business,

international, doing some contract and volunteer work. The nonprofit got its start in the '90s advancing for cold-water fisheries in Lake Champlain, but by the time 10 years got involved, LCI was almost entirely focused on its popular Robert's Bay fishing derby. "The derby became so successful that it replaced everything else," said Eihens.

But in late 1998, two years after Eihens started volunteering with the group-based-the-issues drama prompted the long-time regulars to walk away. In early 1999, the former organizers handed over the group's mailing list and trade marks and Eihens and a few supporters set up a new nonprofit. He suggested that spring is a good time for the annual fishing derby. The plan was to spend a few years building the organization back up, then hand it off to the next director.

In the year since, Eihens' work at LCI has gotten from a volunteer, temporary gig into an all-consuming job that generated

The battle was ugly one, and Ehlers, by most accounts, was vicious and unpredictable. But to his credit, many of his supporters stepped forward that era — including Steve Wright, a former Fish & Wildlife commissioner and the New England regional organizer for the National Wildlife Federation during the Chipman Lands debate — say he's mollified in recent years and now speaks admiringly of his work.

"My impression with James was that he was fearless," says Wright. "Now, he is real. I am pleased, as a senior advocate, that James has ended up where he ended up."

Down the 'Rabbit Hole'

A day after his appearance in Montpelier, wearing the same flannel shirt and jeans, Ehlers was sitting comfortably among insurance agents of towns and state in his Rabbit Hole Standard armchair. He was enough fishing and hunting talk to stock an outdoor store.

Piled up, too, were the leftover lawn signs from election past — more proof of Ehlers' embittered refusal at any compromise. He's stamped for traditional Republicans and painted for Progressives, for wild-hair Ben Bernanke and good ol' boy Lt. Gov. Phil Scott. And how to define his politics, and his answer: "Confused."

So Confused, in fact, that Ehlers proposed to his second wife, Elizabeth, in the middle of winter, stopping a gay man from finger as he took her hand during the traditional sign of the peace. He thought it was a fitting way to honor the role played in their relationship. The priest wasn't around; what no Ehlers had been an earnest protest — one he and Elizabeth researched daily each week at mass — earned him contempt and disrespectful to the congregation.

The publisher for environmental causes carries over onto social media, where Ehlers is a prolific poster of Facebook op-ed and commentaries (he has personal pages, but names among political documents, off-color comedy and impersonal quotes PhotoShopped over images — like the one he posted in February that features Luther King Jr., bearing the inscription: "A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus, but a molder of consensus." Ehlers' commentary read, "Let's get at done, folks!").

He's with tagged him on an image that read: "You're not a wolfie. I'm actually one of the naughtiest people you will ever meet. You are just posited because I can see through your bullshit."

Ehlers responded, "Thank you for the encouragement to Elizabeth!"

"I feel like there's this perception about me that I enjoy not being approachable," said Ehlers. He instead is not true, and talks about his work as "building bridges." Two years ago ECI introduced the Blue Resolution Coalition; today, the coalition has 46 signatures, ranging from private

businesses to faith organizations and mainstream environmental groups.

Ehlers considers his advocacy a "moral obligation." Left to his own devices, he'd rather retreat to his camp in Peru Vermont to hunt moose and teach his kids to fish. His two oldest children — 6-year-old Lillian and 4-year-old Edward — proved good shots in this year's Yankee Spinebuster's Classic. The couple also has a young son and a fourth child in the works.

Sitting in a shabby, old armchair, Ehlers scrolled wearily through Facebook photos from a full hunting expedition. He quoted up a video on what he is — clad in camo and wearing a thick beard streaked with gray hair — followed out into the northern woods, enrobed a canoe toward a small band of noisy humans.

It takes patience to bag a wild animal.

Ehlers is building off on passing legislation as the proposed legislation, though he's still searching for a more ambitious solution than the ones being handled about in Montpelier. He'll keep roasting phosphorus capture and conservation and talking up his floating islands. And he understands the game. If you want regulations on snow-swept ponds, mil for half-snows. If you want to tax Vermonters \$1 a week for a cleaner water fund, so be it.

"They're building algae-powered buildings in Germany," said Ehlers. "You flush the toilet, and your crew and it can keep the lights on." If we could pledge to land an the moon in the 1960s, having no idea at the time how to get there, Ehlers would like to believe we can clean up our water.

But whether he has a seat at massas control may have more to do with the politics of Montpelier than the issue of water quality. Asked about the governor's remark to Ehlers — "We need to get you back on the reservation" — Stetson spokesman Scott Cornell said he wasn't in the room and didn't hear it, but "such a comment wouldn't surprise me."

"While there are different views on how to achieve the shared goal of cleaning up Lake Champlain, there is a broad coalition working together that can accomplish this to secure the plan and funding to make a real impact on the effort," wrote Cornell in an email. "James is a true believer in the work to clean up Lake Champlain, but he needs to decide whether he wants to be part of the progress, even if he doesn't agree with every part of the proposal."

If he's being cut out of meetings, as he suspects, for his conservative views, Ehlers takes that as a compliment.

"Thank you for acknowledging that I'm not willing to go along to get along," said Ehlers. In his mind, at least, the lake deserves more. ☐

PEOPLE ARE
JUST FED UP
... THERE
HAVE BEEN
GROSS
GOVERNMENT
FAILURES.

JAMES EHLDERS

Thinking Global

Vermont writer John Fusco immersed himself in the world of "Marco Polo" for the Netflix series

BY ETHAN DE SEPE

Screenwriter John Fusco's surname is an anagram of "fascist"—an apt moniker for someone who's been in the movie business for more than 30 years. Back in the 1980s, while still a New York University screenwriting student, Fusco twice won the now-defunct FOCUS (Film of College and University Students) Award. At the 1984 ceremony, where he accepted the award for the screenplay that would become the 1986 film *Gremlins*, master of ceremonies Rob Reiner commented on the auspicious stringer.

Vermont-based Fusco recently switched his focus to the next wave of film delivery: online streaming. With the creator and showrunner of brother's epic series "Marco Polo." With Bob and Barney Weinstein, among others, Fusco is also one of the show's executive producers; he was closely involved with its fight choreography and wrote or co-wrote the first season's episodes.

Fusco has apparently found a winning formula, as "Marco Polo" was received last month for a second 10-episode season; he just finished writing the pilot. The show is now one of Netflix's trophies, as the company continues to develop original programming and upend traditional media distribution. In a recent interview with *Screen Daily*, Fusco couldn't help noting that the show's global reach evoked Polo's own global expeditions in the late 13th and early 14th centuries.

The first season, which cost a reported \$60 million and was shot in the high-resolution 4K format, is a visual feast. Shot in Italy, Malaysia and Kazakhstan, the episodes burst with gorges imagery: the three rows of Kublai Khan's expansive stupas, medieval Chinese palaces.

Fusco is currently writing several film projects, but he was especially excited to direct "Marco Polo," which brings together several of his longstanding interests. In fact, Fusco admitted he identified with its title hero, not least because in researching the show, he traveled some of the very roads on which Polo journeyed.

Fusco lives in Lamoille County on a hill steep accommodation in a porter's poky little rural car. When Seven Days visited, he offered hot green tea and a seat in a nearby Brooks chair. His writing

TELEVISION



Giovanni Ribisi (left) with John Fusco in the Netflix series "Marco Polo."

room—all dark wood, overuffed bookshelves and historical artifacts—feels like a 19th-century gentleman's parlor. Fusco jokingly calls him "the Taoiseach on the mountain." Fusco said it's a sobriquet he relishes. He clearly prizes his time at home, in part because he was afraid for 15 straight months during production of "Marco Polo."

Fusco has an abiding interest in Asian culture. When he was growing up in Connecticut, he relished his father, a Korean War vet, told him about the ancestral martial-arts ability of an old man who used to hang around the army base. Fusco had the boy teach up martial arts himself, which led to an interest in Shaolin kung fu and the philosophy that underpins it. Fusco's new project is to teach and just know do, the martial art founded by Bruce Lee.

"I would go off to California, or at the corner bar stop and read the teachings of Lao Tzu," said Fusco. "And then I would go no farther, and it was just not connecting." He found himself drawn toward Chinese culture more than Christianity. "The cosmology, the

ethical maxims, ethics of interconnectedness and the sense of digging—it was all so fascinating to me," Fusco said.

The same was true of Marco Polo. "I loved the idea that there was this young Italian lad who had traveled further into China than any [European] before him," Fusco said. "He went there with some prejudice and was a dyed-in-the-wool Christian, and the experience opened his eyes. He became the first bridge between east and west, and I take this affinity with that young Italian traveler."

That affinity never disappeared, but it did take a backseat as Fusco's screenwriting career took off in the 1990s.

After *Gremlins*, he penned the non-traditional Western *Beverly Hills Cop* and its sequel. An avid historian and founder of a conservancy for rare horse breeds, he also scripted two epic-themed films, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron* and *Bridge*. More recently, Fusco revisited his passion for martial arts and Chinese history in the screenplay for *The Forbidden Kingdom* (the first cinematic meeting of martial arts stars Jackie Chan and Jet Li); and in *Crouching*

Tiger: Hidden Dragon: The Green Legend, the forthcoming sequel to the Oscar-winning martial arts drama.

While Fusco was on location in China to research *The Forbidden Kingdom*, his son reminded him about his longstanding goal of a father-son horseback trek across Mongolia. Realizing there was no better time, the two friend a guide and set off. "As my son was having all these conversations with our guide about the Mongol Empire, the name 'Marco Polo' would continue to come up," and Fusco "realized that, in Asia, the guy was never on the veracity of his accounts, like it is here."

The writer described "a perfect storm" of happenstance: the reshuffling of his own fascination with Polo, a producer asking him if he had any material about wandering in China and his own growing interest in writing for television. For Fusco, the story of Polo's travels was a natural for a long-form TV series.

"It's as real, because he was in China for 17 years. Marco was sort of myriad missions by Kublai Khan, and there's a rich, multicultural world with potential

multiple morphosis," Paseo explained. "Gino Polci's death had pronounced him that he hadn't resonated half of what he'd seen. Tucci also appreciated his take's "intrinsic for creativity" which allowed the story to progress down various "territories."

Originally slated to run on the start network, "Marco Polo" found a home on Netflix, where it is now viewable in all of North and South America and much of Western Europe. And Paseo was right. It's hard not to see parallels between Polci's globe-trotting and the show's hemispheric reach.

The episodes were shot in order, starting in Venice, in the bone country of lead after Lorenzo Richelmy ("The unknown Italian lad who was cast as Masso started in Venice, in his comfort zone, speaking his native tongue," Paseo described). Once the production moved to central Asia, Richelmy's growing attachment reminded the show's creator of that which Polci himself must have experienced.

The show is notable for its visual beauty, which Paseo said was a consideration right from the start. The idea was to show "this big, sprawling world

of Kublai Khan through the eyes of this Venetian traveler," he said. The show's locations, costumes and textures are appealing in an almost a throwback way; the latter to evade Polci's antipathism at what he found.

For a large and multifaceted show, "Marco Polo" had a remarkably brief shooting schedule. March to August 2014. By December, all 10 episodes were available online.

But the shoot was not without difficulties. An entire studio was constructed on stilts for the production in the jungles of Malaysia — no small feat. Several crew members, as well as Paseo himself contracted dengue fever and had to be treated in one of three major World War II Malaysian dens of former POWs and Malaysian dens of former POWs and former Japanese POWs.

Paseo resonated how one of the show's home wranglers had to round up "forgotten and maimed animals and gradually train them to be camera-ready."

At times, production of the series in central Asia was halted by fierce thunderstorms that damaged sets and camera equipment. Out on the steppes, the show's cameras occasionally had to hunker down to fend off sand and snow.

A far more serious setback occurred when the show's assistant martial-arts

choreographer, Ji

Ran, went down with the rest of the passengers on Malaysian Airlines Flight 370, which crashed in the Indian Ocean. "Our crew was just devastated," recalled Paseo. The series' second episode is dedicated to Ji's memory.

Paseo told a story about the chilly reception that Marco, his father, Niccolò, and his uncle Matteo received upon returning to Venice after 17 years abroad. As the story goes, he said, "They realized they were dressed like Moors, they'd forgotten how to speak Italian, nobody recognized them."

The writer feels that this tale another parallel between Marco's life and his

own. "You go off to make a show like this, and you're in this bubble, it's very unrealistic," he said. "Your world is suspended in this fiction, and the real world doesn't wait for you. People die and life changes."

Indeed, while Paseo was on that 17-month shoot, his old dog went deaf, his most cherished horse had to be put down and, most tragically, his younger brother died unexpectedly. "You come home, and it's like, 'Hey wait a minute — what happened?' And I felt a little like the Polci," he said.

Paseo's passion for the explorer's story is so strong that he visited the set area during his occasional days off. He recalled: For him, the show doesn't just tell the explorer's story, it's a way to re-institute Polci's legacy. It's also a deeply personal tale for Paseo. As he put it, "I bit on a story that spoke to so much of the stuff I love that I could keep doing it and doing it."

Contact: cbrown@seventyfive.com

INFO

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Gym Class Zero

Trying the new old-school-inspired Cardio Sport at Burlington's OnTrack.

BY SARAH TUFF DUNN

The Queen City's clocks have yet to strike 6 a.m. on a recent weekday but Brian Loeffler is bright-eyed and body-taut, setting out a series of soccer balls and orange cones in the group fitness room at the OnTrack health and physical therapy center in Main Street Landing. Tim marking my first foray into Cardio Sport, which Loeffler describes as "a really high-intensity cardio strength workout."

Michael Dobbs of Burlington has a different way of summing up the class that he's attending regularly since it kicked off at OnTrack this winter. "It feels like being in P.E.," he says, "without the adolescent drama."

Gaspeng must be eat, but there's plenty of blood, sweat and tears as instructor Erikka Ekstrom turns up the

Offspring and leads a half-dozen of us through a "bear crawl" on all fours through the compact labyrinth. Just when we're getting used to the movement, we switch to running, grasping and executing jumping jacks with soccer balls in hand.

It's exactly what Loeffler has promised — "a lot of exercises you wouldn't do without someone standing there with a whistle." And that's precisely the point of Cardio Sport, a 55-minute workout born from soccer drills, aerobics and the mind of ex-cut-of-shape athlete named John Duffy.

Duffy founded Cardio Sport in Massachusetts in 2006, but it didn't become a national franchise until 2011, explains Hilary Hartman, the company's vice president of business development. OnTrack is the first gym in Vermont to offer the classes, which are a mishmash of sports-related compound movements designed to just up the heart rate in a fun setting.

"This style is more complementary to sports and to real, day-to-day life, seeing that passing weights back and forth and colliding intruded muscle groups," explains Loeffler. As a physical therapist, he says, he was also drawn to the dynamic workout's potential for preventing injury. "You need to be able to move laterally and backwards, and have balance and coordination; at the first class that made me feel like I was back in high school training for a sport, not just training for the sake of training."

Coordination has never been my strong suit, and I'm certainly feeling as awkward as I did in high school as I struggle to mimic the patterns that Ekstrom is expertly leading. (After the notes, Part of Cardio Sport's pre-size or scalability, Hartman says from her office in Lexington, Massachusetts, can participate, given that regular classes are only permitted in encouraged.)

"Look up. Breathe and listen to your body," Ekstrom reminds us. "Your heart rate will drop — be mindful of that."

In Cardio Sport, aka fit school, we can opt to follow the instructor's every doortrip while off-the-coach potates our pose for a breath and a sip of water whenever they deem we'll please.

"We taught nothing like this class," Ekstrom tells me after our session. "Never in my years have I told people that they ever stop and take 10 to 30 breaks because of the high pace. But everyone takes it at their own level; you're in competition with yourself, not the class next to you."



Cardio Sport classes at OnTrack

IT'S THE FIRST CLASS THAT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL TRAINING FOR A SPORT, NOT JUST TRAINING FOR THE SAKE OF TRAINING.

BRIAN LOEFFLER

The "dude" next to me happens to be Jessica Shultz of Huntington, a 27-year-old whose bright-pink T-shirt has me second-guessing as I frantically try to keep up. "I know it's working," she says later of Cardio Sport's fitness buzz. It fits. "My upper body is sore — and I think the class has gotten a little bit easier!"

Follow classmate Chantal Bourassa, 30, also says that her endurance has grown "dramatically" since she started Cardio Sport, and that "each class gets easier and easier."

But after trying to score a soccer ball rapidly in and out of my legs, I had myself on the floor parapung my legs at a name known as "mountain climbers." Next, I'm performing push-ups — on the damn soccer ball — and then holding a squat position for 10 seconds while holding, you guessed it, that same soccer ball. The program we're following today is called Gridiron, one of a variety of Cardio Sport options.

The hardest part for me is trying to do "tuck jumps" on the soccer ball while managing to land hard/backward into strategically placed cones. "There are lots of times

when cones are flying everywhere, as a ball goes out of control," Loeffler admits. "But that's all part of the class."

By the time we're doing "outside nauli" — spinning back and forth and high-fiving each other for the entire three minutes of Green Day's "Basket Case" — my fear has turned into fun. I've forgotten about my canine mobility in favor of fancy footwork and am actually happy to pick up the soccer ball for bouncing squats and "fast feet" shuffles, thanks to "Adviser" by Bon Jovi.

The workout is already getting easier, and it's equally easy to imagine how much more fun Cardio Sport would be outdoors, which Loeffler promises will happen come summertime. Right now, OnTrack offers Cardio Sport six times a week, with a \$60 drop-in fee for nonmembers of the fitness family.

"You don't need to prepare for this class," Loeffler says to the Cardio Sport crowd. "Just bring a water bottle, running shoes or court shoes, and get ready to have some fun and really see a transformation in your fitness."

And maybe even a transformation in your feelings about P.E. class. Ekstrom reports that one class member described the workout's increased heart rate using a more colorful metaphor from the education world — after a few months. "It reminds me of being on Chancery Street in college," she says.

Contact sarah.dunn@verizon.net

INFO

OnTrack | 1 Main Street | #100A, Burlington 05401-2209
ontrackvt.com

Unforgettable

What one Vermonter found when her husband lost his memory

BY KEVIN O'CONNOR



Top: Young-Brashears
and Ed Epstein, 2004

BOOKS

Vermonter psychologist Polly Young-Brashears remembers all the questions she asked of her husband. Why had he cashed up more \$70,000 in unanticipated credit card bills, written another \$63,000 in checks to himself from their joint account, and most disturbingly, insanely defied her repeated call for answers?

"The bottom hole-dropped out of everything that presumed security in my life," she recalls thinking. "I realized that an marriage, finance and any sort of control over me circumstances."

Then Young-Brashears learned that her husband, Ed Epstein, had early-onset Alzheimer's disease.

For some, the blues absent a plot point to dismiss such as 2001's *The Curious Case of George Fink*, the Oscar-nominated film in which Oscar-nominee Julianne Moore portrays a forgetful young professor losing her memory, but far an estimated 200,000 Americans, depression's that impairment hit painfully close to home.

"We knew something was seriously wrong, but when you're in your 50s, you don't want to think of that," Young-Brashears says. In an interview, "the day he was diagnosed, I had to revise all

my plans for the future. I said to myself, 'Everything has changed. There's no way to fix it. What can I do now?'

Like many others blindsided by a death, disease or loss, the Worcester therapist and writer faced a tidal wave of confusion. She nevertheless found reason to stay with every territory yet teachable moment:

"As long as I didn't allow my feelings," she remembers telling herself, "I can investigate with a gentle awareness what my life is now passing me."

A longtime proponent of mindfulness, Young-Brashears has trained herself and others to respond to stressful situations with curiosity and, matter-of-fact acceptance. The University of Vermont associate professor of psychology elaborates on this practice in her new book, *The Curious Heart: A Manual of Love, Loss, and Discovery*. She reveals how "profound losses are also an opportunity" and "embrace relationships can be both 'the source of our greatest joys' and 'our path to spiritual rightness.'

Now presenting her work on a national speaking tour, Young-Brashears is sharing a personal story that proves truth can be stranger than fiction. Ask the author how

she met the object of her affection, and she recounts in 1969. A 26-year-old Ohio University student at the time, she typed a fellow young passenger — tall, slender "you thick Mack hair nipples down to his shoulders" — on a flight to New York City.

"I noticed you looking at me," he said to her.

She was mulling a marriage proposal from a philosophy professor 35 years her senior, she replied.

"Don't marry that man," he said again, repeating the details. "He's not old for you."

Young-Brashears felt offended, but her sense of humor won out and well — first the professor and then, after divorcing him five years later, a graduate school instructor. Fast-forward to 2001, when she was teaching at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. For six months, she set across from a holding, middle-aged student named Ed. Then, while drumming one night, the Anglican ostendist had an epiphany: He was that sister on the phone all those years ago.

The two reconnected. Epstein ended his relationship with another woman and told his teacher, "You are the person I want to spend my life with." Struggling with her second marriage, Young-Brashears felt extremely conflicted about seeking another divorce. Then she heard Katherine Hepburn speak at the school's commencement. Quizzed about her three-decade affair with actor Spencer Tracy, the legendary film star declared, "I have tried so low without regret."

Taking those words as a mantra, Young-Brashears divorced her second husband and married Epstein in 1988.

"The conditions in which Ed and I came to love each other are highly imperfect, even affirmative to stamp," she writes in her book. "Of course, in later years, as the inchoate state of our relationship became evident to our friends and family and was witnessed even by strangers, we loved to tell the story of how we met and then lost and then found each other."

For the next 25 years, Ed was the love of my life," she says, "and we had intimacy on all levels," as well as a blended family of children from their previous relationships. Then, in 2004, the 58-year-old Epstein began forgetting things such as appointments, paying bills and putting the cap on the gas tank. One day, Young-Brashears relates, she offered to prepare her husband a sandwich sandwich.

"I can make it myself!" she recalls him shouting. He told her, step by step, exactly how he'd do it. But he couldn't follow through. Frustrated, Epstein broke down and cried.

It was another seven years before her neighbor at New Hampshire's Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center proposed the problem as "advanced Alzheimer's-type dementia."

"I was simultaneously terrified and relieved," Young-Brashears says of the 2008 diagnosis. "It wasn't a matter of forgetting Ed; it was for the achievable difficulties he'd caused. It was more a matter of becoming conscious."

The doctor wasn't the only one with sobering news. A lawyer, reviewing the couple's sprawling financials advised her to divorce Epstein to ensure Ed's trusty Medicaid and she wouldn't be liable for his debts. Her partner bankruptcy and sell the so-called home eight miles north of the Vermont capital.

It all gave Young-Brashears pause — meaning, in her case, she took the deliberate act of stopping and staring real that she had practiced for nearly 45 years, since taking Buddhist vows in 1971.

"My meditation practice has taught me both the beauty and the value of embracing

my immediate experience for what it is, to let go, and to accept change — even unceasing change — as the fundamental ground of my life," Young-Eisenhardt says. "What I came to recognize is, if you can deeply accept that, you can take any kind of tragedy as a teacher."

Many family members and friends were relieved that her "Re attitude" was a way to avoid reality. But the counselor was following decades of determined study as well as her own instructions to clients: People facing adversity need to move forward, step by step, rather than wallowing in past regrets or future worries.

"Recognize you have a precious human life, and it goes by quickly," she says. "The moment-to-moment appreciation of it is your job. It's up to you. What's arriving now? What's possible now? Then make use of the resources that are available."

So Young-Eisenhardt settled until she could clearly hear her answer. And her marriage work to keep her house and devote herself to finding the right one for Epstein.

"One moves toward change, then to a necessity to tell the event story up to a point," she notes in a handout she distributes on her speaking tours. "That point is at the horizon of where we need to strengthen in our lives and change our life story."

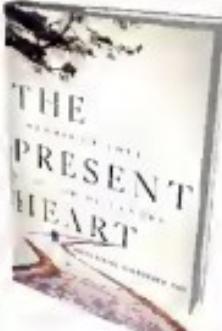
While she's far easier and than done, the therapist advises people to drop thoughts of perfection and instead, with self-compassion and patience, seek a character-based view of reality.

Young-Eisenhardt prepares a calm and collected demeanor, but the two endorsed a flood of wrenching emotions. She details many of them in candid and diary pages excerpted throughout her book.

"Sometimes I feel tremendous anger and resentment about all that I determined of me," reads an entry from April 26, 2008. "I can hardly allow my feelings to move this way through me; they are so physical. My heart and my throat move in all directions, and hurt like an inadmissible way."

Three months later, the emotion shook deeper ever. "My life has lately seemed very stark, poignant and something else — I don't know, maybe dark," she noted. "I have turned over every rock in terms of being Ed's wife and I am weary of it."

By 2009, Young-Eisenhardt had to move her spouse to a nearby care center when he required more support than she could provide. But her responsibilities only grew when, a year later, she opened her door to find her 86-year-old son delivering his 77-year-old father, the retired professor



YOUNG-EISENHEIT'S MEMOIR IS AS MUCH AN EXPLORATION OF THE QUESTION "WHAT IS LOVE?" AS A RECOLLECTION OF THE EVENTS THAT CAUSED HER TO ASK.

the book names only as Richard, and a startling revelation. Her first husband, too, had descended into dementia.

"I am overwhelmed with life's care and making a living," she recalls saying. "I can do nothing, but Richard cannot stay here."

Yet Young-Eisenhardt knew she was the most equipped to deal with memory loss. Medicaid and the range of related paperwork soon she found herself overseeing, now ex-husbands — even taking them both out for dinners that the likes to the Mad Tea Party in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

Young-Eisenhardt's memoir is as much an exploration of the question "What is love?" as a recollection of the events that caused her to ask it. Like just about everything else in her life, her response may surprise people.

"It's hard to answer exactly why my life continues to feel like such a satisfying adventure even though I watch one (two, three!) husbands," she writes. "Before leaving Ed, I did not know that such a love was possible, and now, after living

with him for decades, I do not want to live without it!"

That's why the devoted wife began a long-distance romance with a colleague she identifies simply as Steve — 8,000 miles away in South Africa. She met him via e-mail after his wife died of cancer.

"I awoke during the night and involuntarily mulled over the problems of what has been missing in the last five years," she begins one email included in the book. "Steve, it's been the lack of knowing that health is so hard. Ed rarely knows where I am, what I'm doing, what's going on in my place of or around being."

Young-Eisenhardt exchanged 2,000 such messages over two years with Steve before she met the man who is now her partner, a New York City psychiatrist whose name she reveals only as Robert.

"I wouldn't wish myself about the perils of seeking a new beloved," she confides in her memoir. "Frankly, though, losing Ed has sharpened my desire for love and life and my sense of their importance."

Young-Eisenhardt is not alone sharing her feelings at a recent reading at Manchester's Northstar Bookstore, where she drew knowing nods from other caregivers of patients with dementia.

Nobody talks about any of that," she told the audience. "There's a hesitance in those moments of tragedy."

Silence, may continue. Young-Eisenhardt, perhaps purposefully, but by the end of her book, it's clear that fully is no longer. Hard-hit by reality, she chooses with fine conviction to break open rather than apart.

And so she's telling her story to readers from Northfield to New York to Nashville. She still advocates for her estranged husband Richard. And she still expresses her love for Ed, though the 86-year-old died on October 15, 2016, just as her memoir began to roll off the press.

"He was in decline, but he was still able to smile and laugh," Young-Eisenhardt says. "He said many times, 'This disease is my spiritual teaching.'

And it is hers. □

INFO ■

The Present Heart: A Memoir of Love Loss and Recovery by Polly Young-Eisenhardt (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) 288 pages \$24.99 The author's public appearance schedule — which includes a March 10 program at Manchester University in Northfield — can be found at young-eisenhardt.com.



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Not Giving Up the Ghost

Theater review: *Blithe Spirit* at Northern Stage

BY ALEX BROWN

THEATER



Left to right: Jackie Hoffman
Sam Gregory, Ann Reinking

Noel Coward wrote *Blithe Spirit* in six days while on holiday, calling it an "improbable farce." It is that, but its underlying elegance requires the characters to stay poised as the fictional elements attempt to destabilize them. Armed only with good posture and witty wit, they must withstand the haunting of a house and the potential collapse of what Coward considers the finest sort of structures, a marriage.

Socialite and popular novelist Charles Condomine invites the dotty charwoman Madame Arcati to conduct a séance at his home, in hopes of picking up ideas for his next book. She unsuccessfully conjures up the ghost of Charles' late wife, Elvira, whom only Charles can see. And Elvira isn't budging; she takes up residence, wishing the doctor hadn't changed and that she could still enjoy all the pleasures of life.

When the temperamental Elvira tries to disrupt Charles' marriage to Ruth, his second wife, she hounds and harps on past and present find new ways to woes-

and wound each other. Many scenes take advantage of Ruth's inability to see or hear Elvira, with Charles taking liberties as translator and shifting his affections freely in whatever seems to a spectator like mangling.

In Northern Stage's production, a brash tempo and the nimble precision of skilled actors get the concert of the ground easily and once set, the comedy simply glides. Coward's war enduring, nearly 75 years after the play's premiere in London during the bombings of World War II. It was a diversion in a grim time, but remains endlessly joyous.

Director Lillian King, working with a wacky and well-appointed set, moves the actors in grandly that their pose is always opportune. This allows for a few nice moments when equilibrium is regained. Charles briefly dips into bidding behind the doors as first seeing the ghost of Elvira, and Ruth snaks a cigarette when she lets off alone to worry about beating her ethereal rival. But the more it is stylized, complacent movement, always pretty as a picture,

King and the actors construct smart but unchanging characterizations of each role. Madeline Assets (an effective Arcati White) is ever the eager, curious spiritualist, no matter who the seancee, she remains happy and hopeful. She moves a bit like a large, friendly dog, and even raises the room smiling for the telltale scent of euphoria. Without overbearing, White displays Arcati's eccentricities like a genial grandmother beheading grandchild snapshots.

As Charles, Sam Gregory is the picture of cheer and complaisance. He seems just as serene with one wife, two as the other, Gregory brings the little step of *Ford v Faust* to his parting, and he looks half-body-recent on each word of bad news a beautiful, impeccably paired with the prompt, adorable recovery that puts him upright again. With twinkling eyes beneath brown arched, in wild perplexity, Gregory knows just how to convey comic gravity while retaining all his character's breeding.



L-R: Brian Alber, Alexia Apstein, Sam Gregory, Heather White, Mike Beckman

Alexia Apstein gives Ruth a nuanced comic presence that underscores the bright sharply sometimes at the expense of a franker, drollier brand. Ruth seems always "on," bright in the point of banter. It's a solid approach that saves every joke, but it doesn't allow Ruth to experience the subtle changes in the story, so her interests conflict or align with Charles. Apstein shows Ruth growing wistful, letting her smile with wide-eyed amazement, but ultimately she takes Ruth's role in straight man so seriously that the character becomes a bit starchy.

The decision to make Eliza (Gloria Pires) something of a posturing beldam is potentially a clever way to underscore the youth of Charles' first wife, now dead 10 years and buried in her late twenties, while Ruth and Charles have reached middle age. Making her young is one thing, but letting her become intolerably sultry is another. The comedy nicely compensates, but in the end Charles wouldn't marry a wife that shrewish, gorgeous or not. Pires has an impressive ease on stage, and it's fun to watch her make an unison ghost take over a room, but her low-slung, little-girl persistence grows stale.

Rachel Bloom's physical comedy is the mad survival plan of laughs from Friday's preview audience. The Mamma King demands that this poorly trained actress don't always make sufficient sense; her difficulty handling certain objects is too stylized to be funny, but Bloom's engaging energy is infectious.

To some guests and neighbors the Bradmans, Ray Marion and Mike Beckman do credit to their smaller roles. Marion has a fine, buoyant exuberance about the dance, and Beckman gives an affable, self-satisfied air.

The set, sumptuous, designed by Jordan Janata, welcomes the audience to a

world of genteel elegance. The intimate marquetry four-dazzles with the melody papers walls are covered with details like corsetts, sequins and ruffled bonnets. The lyrical and farfetched support the action beautifully and provide just the right tonal perfection to let the comedy of *Married...With Children* bloom.

Conceived by Colleen C. Brancat, established the 1980s period, emphasizing a lot of the wifely traits over elegance. Ruth sports trousers, perhaps to suggest the male she and Charles are having about when visiting the pants Malone. Arnold's costume is a bright parable of partners with just enough reserve to keep her from being ridiculous. The let-down is the lack of dinner plates. While Charles clings to normality by proclaiming, "I always dress for dinner," he and Bradman never get to in this production.

Beth Spofford lifted London's warlike mood by switching drama but its real subjects are marriage and jealousy. Coward punctuates each character's compassions and introduces three-part conversations that become simultaneous collages as Eliza meets Charles stage back and Ruth assumes her comments are directed at her. Setting loose a character someone else on stage can't see allows Coward to build a jaggedness of misunderstandings that rises higher and higher. The laughs keep coming, and this polished production keeps Coward's wit shining bright. ☐

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Katie Stiles and Kevin Lasko



The Bookshop

Haute Roadside Cuisine

In the back room of a general store, a destination restaurant is born BY ALICE LEVITT

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. STONE

As a 2011, chef Kevin Lasko made international news when he prepared a deceptively simple dish of venison in tahini and date syrup. Topped with pomegranate seeds, his creation had all of haute enlivened by the dishes on which it was served: gold plated china loaned from Saddam Hussein's palace.

Lasko whipped up that dish at Park Avenue, the New York City restaurant where he worked not only menus but also concepts and the decor, each season flings shifting moods, to precisely set the tone of heritage-table settings may seem tailor-made for the city's dining scene. Yet nearly a year ago, Lasko and partner Katie Stiles pulled up stakes and relocated to Putney, Vt., where they now own the Original General Store.

Early this month, Lasko pulled out another set of historical plates—from the original Wal-Mart!—to christen the couple's new week-long-only restaurant, the Bookshop. With seating for no more than 20, it

occupies a space that began as the general store's office. When Lasko and Stiles moved in, they turned that back room into the confectionary kitchen for Vermont Farms Catering, their Vermont Fresh Network member com-

THE CREAM WAS STUFFED WITH TIMY TOBIKO THAT POPPED WITH WASABI LIKE SPICY, FISHY FIREWORKS.

pany (Lasko is the executive chef, Stiles the event director) that the space still felt underused. "We thought about it and realized that we're only using it for catering for half the year," Lasko recalled. "We thought that the rest of the year, we might as well make something cool out of it."

The first step was to apply their unerring eye to designing the small space. The dining room has wooden doors so massive they appear at first to be walls, creating a幽密, speakeasy atmosphere. A cluster of bare light bulbs hangs on long, black wires over each of the six tables, while music plays from an iPod through a tiny ground-surface speaker. Even the bathrooms have style to spare. Stiles and Lasko wallpapered the rooms themselves with paper from Brightwood that depicts kitchen tools such as proper mills, scales and mugs.

It's a stark contrast to the traditional interior of the general store, with its dark wood and barrels of penny candy. Lasko and Stiles still sell cat food, DVDs of "Home Improvement" and other staples to locals who rely on the store as a community hub, but they're put their stamp on that tradition, too.

Since taking over ownership last March, the couple has transformed the stench-penitentiary stock. Books



SIDE dishes

BY HANNAH PALMER ERICKSON & ALICE LENTZ



Photo: Hannah Palmer Erickson

Dilemma Solved

DOUGHNUT SHOP COMING TO BURLINGTON

RACHEL MCGINNIS CUNNINGHAM started her home bakery Doughnut Dreamland last January, after she'd been hoping to open a baked-and-mashed store. "It is obviously a lot easier to go off-set [at first]," she says. "The home bakery made it a whole lot easier to gain some awareness and let people know we're there."

Now, having developed a cult following at the [Burlington Farmers Market](#) and through direct ordering, the South Burlington baker is taking the next step. If all goes as planned, Doughnut Dreamland will open in the former Big Betty's BBQ space at 55 Main Street in Burlington at the end of March.

What can customers expect? "The smell of amazing doughnuts when they walk in," Cunningham declares. Coffee and espresso from [Cavacini](#) beans, hot chocolate, and tea will add to the aroma. Limited seating will allow guests to stay in for those hot drinks while they indulge.

But the main event is the sweet stuff. With her expansion into the store, Cunningham will make the transition from sheet cakes to top-downs in her house to an industrial-size that cooks 36 rounds at a time. Her days of making a maximum of 700 doughnuts in a weekend — and knowing she could have sold more — will soon be over. "And my house won't smell like doughnuts anymore," she says.

Doughnut Dreamland has gained a reputation for unusual flavors, including Rock Krispies cereal and afrome. Toasted coconut and maple-glazed are among the most popular varieties, Cunningham says.

When the store opens, Cunningham will debut new options — a piñapple upside-down-cake doughnut as in the works. She may also heed requests from the farmers market patrons who've expressed their yen to taste bacon in her maple doughnuts.

The menu will change weekly, with special additions for holidays. At last Saturday's Valentine's Day farmers market, for instance, Cunningham incorporated fresh raspberries into cake

and yeast doughnuts. For St. Patrick's Day, she plans to make a Guinness doughnut, as well as one adorned with Bofey's Irish Cream. With the luck of the Irish, her Burlington store will open soon after.

light-hearted approach, with a more pub-like vibe. The change also brought back original Brown Dog the pup, [smash](#), whose menu features house-smoked meats such as barbecue-glazed baby back ribs, all sourced locally.

Much of what on the menu is available for sale in the adjacent shop. "We're really trying to leverage everything we have in the Tasting Center," Lager says.

Other bites include smash mac-n-cheese, smash burgers — topped with local bacon, blue cheese from the corner at [JASPER HILL](#) and pickles — or apple cheddar, bacon and cheddar sandwiches made smash with pulled pork or house-roasted beef on breads

Ciderhouse Rules

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In January, [WANTAGE CIDER & MEAT CO.](#) replaced [BROWN DOG RESTO](#) as the in-house restaurant at [Newport's NORTHEAST KIOSK](#) (MAYNARD CENTER). KAREN GRIER CO-OWNER; ELEANOR GRIER FOOK



the week after the Brown Dog closed in late December due to family illness. (Read more about Lager and her company in this week's feature "Sweetener Day," page 44.)

The restaurant is the cornerstone of the Tasting Center, which Lager conceived two years ago, with ample local support, to showcase the best of Vermont's native food products. Her vision is based on the basement floor.

The Ciderhouse is less frenetic than the original bistro — black paper napkins have replaced white ones — and the space reflects a

focus on the Tasting Center's [SMASH & SMASH BAKE SHOP](#). The Ciderhouse is also open for brunch.

Lager has seized the opportunity to expand the restaurant's cider program, and says she's working with Smash to include quaffs from [GRANVILLE ORCHARD](#), [WHITEFISH CIDERWORKS](#), [CITRUS FARMHOUSE](#), [EDEN ICE CIDER](#), among others. An enhanced cocktail list features spirits from [MAD RIVER DISTILLERY](#), [CALENDAR SPIRITS](#), [BIRKE'S MIA](#), and [URBAN PROVISIONS](#), alongside Lager's own ciders and porters.

— HIRE

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food

Haute Roadside Cuisine

By KELLY MCKEE



Guests get acquainted over cocktails and appetizers.

you come from Red Hen Baking Co., and meat cuts in the butcher shop are local. At breakfast, pastry can still pack up a bacon, egg and cheese sandwich or pancakes off the griddle, but their options now include maple French toast with caramelized bananas and bacon marmalade, served with whole-grain avocado toast. Late in the day, the kitchen serves local-field burgers, alongside hot sandwiches featuring Vermont Salami sausage or slow-roasted pulled pork with plant-based jets.

So how did Laska, a New York Times-stared chef, and Stiles, the public relations and marketing director for the Board Wall Illustrations group, wind up running a general store 20 minutes from Killington? Vermonters can thank the Spartan race.

The couple made regular stops in Vermont as they traveled throughout the Northeast competing in the grueling obstacle races. Then, Laska, a New England Culinary Institute grad, enjoyed crawling under buried wire and leaping over fences with his wife's love. And the pair got to know Spartan Race cofounder and CEO Joe De Sena in the process—literally. De Sena lives in Pittsfield, where his non-profit includes the co-owned Area Farm—a farmhouse that he and his family now run via 18 volunteers—and nearby event location Riverside Farms.

Back then, De Sena also owned the Original General Store—and was eager to sell it to the New York couple. "He was fed up with the store," said Laska. "It was a huge pain for him. We didn't know how much work the general store would be. It turned out

to be a lot more work than we were prepared for."

The endeavor might not have been all-consuming for another couple, but Spartans Stiles and Laska clearly don't have the word "half-assed" in their vocabularies. While touting everything charming about the street-level store, they renovated it to showcase local brands. The certified-organic farm just across the street, Sweet Georgia P's at Area Farm, provides produce—and every egg in the breakfast sandwiches.

Stiles and Laska live above the store's historic building and are rarely up there else. "We're basically here from 6 a.m. to eight or nine at night every day," Stiles added.

Last summer their already-packed schedule included catering more than 30 weddings, most of them at Area

The Original General Store



er Riverside Burns. So why did Stiles and Laska give their business a third prong — the restaurant — after less than a year? Stiles explained their reasoning: "Kevin's a trained chef; why not let him cook a little bit of what he's trained in?"

The new venture seems destined to be busy, too. On the Jackman's first Saturday of dinner service, the small space sold out. Farmer and general store employee Jim McGrath greeted guests with glasses of sparkling wine. Luke held court in his small kitchen — really just a slate counter facing stoves and a pantry stacked with delicacies such as quince vinegar and Italian fish sauce.

Over Thirsty Bill's First Anniversary Tiramisu Fondue, diners perused the drink menu. Stiles and McGrath prepared the tipples from a well-stocked bar hidden in what looked like a coat closet area.

Lasko said he'd missed that his favorite drink — a Negroni — be included at the raffle. His version includes Barr Hills-bottled Tom Cat gin and a blood-orange twist. The other cocktails were concocted by Stiles, who had run restaurants jobs in college before his career in culinary marketing. One of her drinks, A Fine Mess, combined rum and Sugar Bob's Smoked Maple syrup. The drink's sweet finish was promised to leave diners feeling just as its name assured.

The Backroom served four course dinners in its first week, but Stiles said the couple would experiment with three for the next few weekly meals. "We'd like to evolve and do five at six courses with a different price point, then ramp it up from there," she said.

After the fondue and drinks, diners tried a BLT salad featuring hydroponically grown lettuce and tomatoes with Jasper Hill Farm's Bayley Hazen Bleu and homemade English mustard.

Though the salad was topped with flavorful Greek Goddess dressing and served on the Walker's Antone plates, it didn't prepare diners for the boldness of the next dish. Linda had deconstructed her favorite bagel sandwich from New York's *Bagels & Brunches* in the form of dippable chitarra pasta. Cold ears of unison gave the warm, creamy pasta a slight puff of sand. Bell-peppered crème fraîche took oblique turns.

Contact: elis@telekom.com

INFOR

INFO

The Author: 28003 Paseo 100, Pacifica,
755-4352; www.karen.com

One of the couple's stated goals in opening the Baskettown was to "raise funds." At the intensive tables, it was impossible not to. Meghna Shrestha, executive director of the Vermont Fresh Network, said she engaged in several unexpected conversations that night with her tablemates, who included Dr. Sen.

"Selling in a community type model can sometimes be scary for people, but once the conversation takes off, it just goes all over the place and you have an experience that's so much more than dinner. The question is, are you up for it?" Sherida said.

Linda herself approved comparisons with "the resto event," a potluck-blessed short rib over Natty Green Gravy Company of Vietnamese polenta. The entrée comes with a side of kale miso-dice for the table. "Can anyone guess what the secret ingredient is?" Linda asked. At the end of the course, he returned to set up more could name what made the braised green taquu. She also figured out that its retinal system taste came from anchovies.

By the time dessert rolled around, diners did indeed feel like old friends both with one another and with the Bucknorns' owners. There didn't need to be as much dark chocolate sauce as there was. But, dotted with intensely orange-flavored macarpone, it was an irresistible take on an orange Milano cookie that everyone devoured.

Then once the bushels were cleared, guests seemed less than eager to leave. May had a long way to go, hastening from Montpelier or Burlington. Sherskin warned that the backroads will carve out its niche among just such demanding clients. "It's an amazing thing that she's new lives in Vermont and has a restaurant that is definitely a destination," she said. "For a lot of people, you're definitely going to have to drive out of your way to get there."

Destination or not, the Berkshires is sure to retain apical appeal for those who discover the treasure hidden in the back of a classic Vermont general store. Some may even like its friendly atmosphere enough to stay in town for a breakfast sandwich the next day. They just shouldn't expect the sort of unadorned chaos.



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Apples for Dessert

Vermont's cider boom includes a sweet treat: ice cider

BY MÄNNÄH PALMER ESQ.

Among Vermont's new wave of ciders, many are trending toward dessert dryness, dialing the sweetness down to nearly zero. But one subset of the local cider revolution is embracing the apple's natural sugar.

Ice cider, made with juice concentrated through an elaborate process of freezing and melting, is created, packaged, priced and sold as a dessert wine. Unlike hard cider, which enjoys a long and rich tradition, this apple drink is a more recent phenomenon. The first ice cider emerged from Québec in the early 1990s, pressed from apples that were left to hang and freeze on the trees and harvested in winter.

The sole of the bootie, ice cider makers do things a little differently. Apples are picked in summer and pressed right away. But instead of fermenting the liquid then and there, cider makers leave it in cube-shaped plastic tanks, leaving those outside to freeze during the winter. Later, they melt the juice under controlled conditions. Sugar falls out of solution first, creating the concentrated syrup (about 30 percent of the original liquid) that cider makers use as their base. Because of the high initial sugar levels, they stop fermentation before the yeast eats up all of it. When alcohol and sugar reach just the right balance, the result is a sweet, apple-forward drink.

"For us, it's about the flavor of the apples," says Ian Leger, co-owner of Leger Liqueur. Since Days in Rutland won last week, "We've started about apples, and we want to showcase that flavor."

Leger was in town, along with folks from Shrewsbury Shadydale Cider and Wimberly's Vermont Cider, among others, to celebrate winning a 2015 Good Food Award. That nation-wide competition recognizes products with exceptional flavor and producers who embody socially and environmentally responsible practices.

Founded in 2007, Edén is Vermont's biggest, best-known ice cider producer. With a lab at Newport's Northeast Kingdom Testing Center and an on-site West Chesterfield, Edén makes ciders that are available in 34 states around the



country. They've earned space on wine lists at Michelin-starred restaurants such as New York's Gramercy Tavern, and Del Posto.

As the product gains recognition, more Vermont orchardists are turning to ice cider as an additional income stream. "We have more ice cider producers in Vermont than any other state," Leger said. "And you don't have to say 'per capita share.' So it should be our thing."

With fewer than a dozen producers, ice cider represents a small fraction of

the state's cider output. But for farmers and small-business owners, a big draw is the fact that ice cider can be made in more batches and sold at a decent profit margin. Unlike hard cider, which is consumed like beer and must be sold at a similar price point, ice cider players are accustomed to dropping \$10 to \$30 on a \$50 bottle.

Leger and her husband (and Edén-founder and winemaker), Albert Leger, first encountered ice cider in 2006, on a trip to Montréal to visit his family. That

first taste was a Goldilocks moment. Ice cider seemed to fill a hole in the puzzle that the couple was putting together.

At the time, the Legers were in the process of buying a 150-acre abandoned farm near Lake Willoughby. They hoped to use the land for something productive. "We loved apples and [were] thinking, 'OK, we'll plant some trees; that'll

Nova food after the classified section

SUNDAY BRUNCH

be fun. But what can we do with meat?" Eleanor Leger recalled.

A former software consultant, she had been raising apples on her hard cider and apple brandy. Cider presented an immediate economy of scale, and the years of lag time between fermentation and sale ruled out brandy. Leger had never heard of ice cider, but when she tasted it, she knew "This is that small scale, niche, high-priced product," she remembered thinking.

And Vermont is an ideal place to make this stuff. "This is something that's unique to this region," she said. "We have an incredible history of apple growing here. And lots of cold weather. You could believe that the best ice cider in the world could come from here."

As Leger laid out her logic, it was easy to see why she's also ice cider's most effective champion. In 2006, the Legers began working with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture to educate enthusiasts and others on the ice cider process. In 2008, she worked to found the Vermont Ice Cider Association, which is now becoming the Vermont Cider Association.

One of ice cider's early adopters was Hall Home Place, in Isle La Motte. Co-owner Carol Stasie grew up in the Champlain Islands and fondly recalls her family has worked since the 1700s. "We believe the orchard was planted in the 1800s," she said via phone last week. Stasie's brother, Allen Hall, continues operating the farm after their parents stopped, but times were tough. "We wanted to keep the orchard in the family," Stasie said. "We were trying to find a way to help make it work, very sweet apple."

How do these drinks stand up against each other, and against a traditional dessert wine? For a comparative tasting of seven Vermont ice ciders, Seven Days set down with Brudenell Wines' Jason Zelinski, Abby Kells and Scott Dolberry. (Dolberry is also the beverage director at Bluebird Tavern, where Zelinski is a partner.)

The session revealed a couple things. First, that these ciders sit in a different class than grape-based dessert drinks — strong, sweet apple forms a solid base for all of them, with deviousness running the gamut from creamy to savory. Second, that taste is in wine is, as with all wine, subjective. On one tongue, a tip might sound notes of cork, cedar, or another, mysterious. Read on for our tasting notes.

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ELEANOR LEGER

which gives you this full apple flavor. It's like taking a bite of a very fresh, very sweet apple."

How do these drinks stand up against each other, and against a traditional dessert wine? For a comparative tasting of seven Vermont ice ciders, Seven Days sat down with Brudenell Wines' Jason Zelinski, Abby Kells and Scott Dolberry. (Dolberry is also the beverage director at Bluebird Tavern, where Zelinski is a partner.)

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Apples for Dessert

FORBIDDEN ORCHARDS VERMONT ICE CIDER

Forbidden Orchards, South Hero

Golden amber and honey in color; made with apples grown on 30 acres of the historic Allenstock Farms in South Hero

aroma: Caramel and butterscotch on the nose, dense sugar and canned-drift syrup. Acid and sugar out of balance.

taste: Smoke, caramel, syrup on the nose. Full body, baked apple, honey sweet, moderate finish.

aroma: Nose of baked apple, honeycrisp, peach brittle. Fairly viscous and sticky, thick and cloying, with a honeyed finish.

taste: Toney caramel, super-sweet, syrupy, went. Maraschino cherry and palate.

ORGANIC HEIRLOOM BLEND

Adam Ice Cider, West Charleston

aroma: Green colored, pressed from a blend of McIntosh, Empire, Russet, Gavelle Blanc d'Hiver, Ensuite Spitzenburg and Adirondack Royal apples from Scott Ferry Orchard in Danburyton; aged one year to maximize flavor.

taste: Fresh apple and raisin notes on the nose, slight mandarin flavor with decent acidity.

aroma: Flecked and variegated nose with McIntosh (apple), wood, earth, apple pie, apricot. Medium body, nuttiness, oak, rice balance and length. A bit of honey, wheat bread and canned pear.

taste: Herbal, grassy apples, fresh nose. Maple molasses-like. Good weight, but with acid for freshness. Tangy.

aroma: Fresh green apple nose, nice tart acidity. Bready, nutty, woody, with sprout underneath and floral notes.

NEWHALL FARM ICE CIDER

Adam Ice Cider

Golden straw color, pressed from 100 percent organic, estate-grown Liberty, Esopus, Crips, Rosecrisp, Cortland, mix of heirloom and wild apples.

aroma: Brown sugar on the palate, tea sweet with low acidity.

taste: Melonics, oats and baked-apple nose; green apple and July Rancher

aroma: Cinnamon (candy), like Red Hots, fake apple aroma and flavor like candy or gum.

taste: Cinnamon-flavored brown sugar nose, Felix the Cat's coffee cake.

SOUTH END BLEND

Hall Home Place, Isle La Motte

playful straw color, estate-grown Gravenstein apple blend, aged three to four months in steel.

aroma: Malted spice on the nose. Balanced sugar/sourity.

taste: Honey apple and fruit-leather taste; citrus, red apple, seetime. Finish drops off quickly.

aroma: Apple cake nose, sweet and tart; simple.

taste: Lighter body; yellow acid and green apple. One note, but quite agreeable.

HONEYCRISP ICE CIDER

Champion Orchards, Shoreham

pale golden in color, pressed from estate-grown Honeycrisp apples.

aroma: Vinyl apple and grape nose. Pie filling on the palate.

taste: Simple nose of green olive green apples, hawthorn can palate with flax, earth and leaves.

aroma: Earthy nose. Rainy-day apple orchard, smoky edge.

taste: Bloody, mushroom-y nose. Tart apple, lemon/lime in mouth.

NORTHERN SPY BARREL-AGED

Adam Ice Cider

Amber-colored single variety cider aged in stainless steel, then in French oak barrels.

aroma: Bubbly apple and oak on the nose. Tart apple and smoking spice on the palate.

taste: Tasty bourbon nose, some of vinyl and rubbing alcohol. Mellow mouth, citrus, Red apple, cinnamon, menthol. Nice Paveurs of the bunch.

aroma: Maple, apple cake, cinnamon and smoked vanilla nose. Cedar doughnuts,



savory mid-palate, browned sugar and caramel, only finish

HONEY Tasty, nutty, woody on the nose. Rich creamed and lots of complex light oak mid-palate.

ICE CIDER, VERMONT ICE

Boyden Valley Winery & Spirits,
Candronage

Pale straw color, pressed from a blend of Brown Orchard & Vermont apples, fermented in stainless steel, aged in French oak.

sharp fruity pearlike apple on the nose. Caramel apple, can included on the palate.

apple Bushmills [Irish Whiskey], apple, seckle and iron nose. Simple green and red apple, nutmeg-scented burn on the finish.

apple Woody nose, apple chips. Apple, vanilla extract, wood chips.

HANNAH Sprightly with hints of stone fruits ☺

Contact: hannah@vermontice.com

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calendar

FEBRUARY 18 - 24, 2016

WED. 18

arts

DRAMA & DIP Building (Montessori) lessons at 9:30 a.m.; drama classes twice weekly under the tutelage of Heather Lynn Criswell, 101 Montessori Ave., Room 208, 9 p.m., \$35-\$40; for ages 3 and up. Info: 203/934-5338.

business

MARKETING MEETING Marketing, sales, communications, procurement and design professionals bring their best-in-class proposals were received. From 7:30-11:30 a.m. Building: Chapman College, Burlingame, 740 E. 1st St., Burlingame, 94010. Info: 650/348-1882.

comics

DRIVE, BELIEF & BENEFITS FOR COTS Jellicious comic book building meeting on this theme. Info: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Building: Chapman College, 740 E. 1st St., Burlingame, 94010. Info: 650/348-1882.

community

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Come along to a free breakfast at the church. All profits from meal prepared by the Knights of Columbus. St. Peter's Cemetery Center, Burlingame, 8:30 a.m. Free. At 10:30 a.m. St. Paul will be consecrated as their new administrator available for questions. Info: 650/456-5100.

KING STREET CENTER GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION: Located downtown and the original site of the first King Street Center, Burlingame, 4 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

PEER SUPPORT CIRCLE A confidential space allows participants to converse freely without giving names or solving problems. The Wellness Center, Burlingame, 8:45 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

events

EMERGENCY & DISASTER PREP Classes continue for citizens. Burlingame Library, Fletcher Room, Burlingame, 8-11 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

environment

SAGE FARMERS The founder of the Belmont Day School, teenagers institutional educator models in 2016 Century Learning, Training Children to Think, Innovate, Create (TCTC) "Gardening Farming" Burlingame Library, Burlingame, 9-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

entertainment

CREATING PROSPERITY & OPPORTUNITY: CONFRONTING CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT Sessions include offense defense strategies and students consider the impact of climate change.

at Belmont, in red interior. Info: 650/456-5100. See internet for details. Belmont Technical College, Burlingame, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$40. Pre-reg. info: 650/456-5021. info@belmonttech.org.

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING: PARK CLUB Climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing our world. This program will examine the science behind climate change and its environmental impacts through discussion. Rockwood Room, Rockwood Free Building, Burlingame, 12:30 p.m. Free. Pre-registrations info: parkclub@berkeley.net. Belmont Writers' Center, Burlingame, 9-11 p.m. Free. Pre-registrations info: www.burlingamearts.com.

AMERICAN REN-CROSS BIJOU BLIND DRAMA It's step closer to the gift of the Golden Globes! Info: 7:30 p.m. Info: 650/456-5100. Venues: local theaters statewide. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

TECH HELP WITH CLIP Info: develop staff skills application to entrepreneurs, startup assistance. Belmont Library, Foster Junction, 1-3 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

TECH TUTOR PROGRAM teens receive opportunities new technology and electronics knowledge. Info: 9 a.m.-noon. Burlingame Library, Burlingame, 9:30-9:30 a.m. Free. Pre-registrations info: 650/456-5100.

WINTER NIGHT FEATURING THE RAGBIE COMPANY Local groups for this winter night of entertainment, including the Ragbie Company, Big Picture and CMC. Burlingame, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. suggested donation. Belmont: Info: 650/456-5100.

film

FROZEN HOLLOW WINTER FILM SERIES: INHERIT GENESETH: An Inverness-based film crew on the grand tour. A determined young boy about 10 takes his dog, Max, to the frozen village of Ginevres. A community comes together to help him get home. Info: 7 p.m. Burlingame, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100.

food & drink

CASLAWNECK PUP-PIPER DINER Craft beers from Belmont's favorite brewery complete menu of soups, salads, pizzas, sandwiches, wings, sliders, \$10. Info: 650/456-5100.

COFFEE TALKING Type of Counter Culture Coffee changed over by coffee connoisseurs of different backgrounds. Info: 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. carly@carlyhilton.com. **CERNICHEAR SOCIAL** Friends share their favorite recipes on this month-long meet up. The Wellness Center, Burlingame, 1-3 p.m. Free. Info: 650/456-5100 ext. 302.

WED. 18 BY P. 12

LIST YOUR UPCOMING EVENT HERE FOR FREE!
All submissions due by 11:59 p.m. on the 15th of the month before publication.
Find your community at www.silive.com/community.

SOUL MATE 5K MARCH 13 AT 10:30 A.M. AT BURLINGAME'S BAYVIEW PARK. INFO: 650/456-5100. INFO: 650/456-5100. INFO: 650/456-5100. INFO: 650/456-5100. INFO: 650/456-5100.

CALENDAR EVENTS IN SEVEN DAYS:
Listed here are events that are coming up during the next seven days. Details such as date, time, location, cost and contact information may be listed in either the calendar or the class listing section when appropriate. Class descriptions may be found to purchase a class listing.



Let There Be Light

Every year, Montreal en Lumière transforms the city's downtown into one of the world's largest winter festivals. With annual attendance topping 900,000, this frozen fire, cans, cabin fever with 10 days of fine dining, film, theater, comedy, live music and visual art. A wide array of indoor and outdoor venues host more than 200 events, entering the festivities of all ages and tastes. Spilling of tanks, culinary creations from top international chefs fuel the festivities and pre-festivities return to travel north of the border. This nonstop revelry caps off with Nutcracker, an awe-inspiring night of light installations, exhibitions, concerts and dancing.

MONTREAL EN LUMIÈRE

Running Tuesday to through Saturday February 20. Various times, in downtown Montreal. See website for future dates. Prices vary. Info: 514-281-3025. www.montrealenlumiere.com



Going Downhill Fast

There are skiers, and then there's the Snow Derby. Now in its 70th year, this legendary race from the top of Mount Mansfield to the village of Stowe is done exclusively on cross-country skis. Athletes must combine Alpine and Nordic disciplines on a harrowing 12.5-mile course that drops more than 2,600 feet in elevation. A true test of mental and physical stamina, the competition attracts hundreds of skiers from around the country, who summon strength, skill and luck to make it through unscathed. New this year, fat-tire riders navigate the snow-covered terrain on two wheels, cheered on by hordes of spectators.

STOWE DERBY

Sunday February 21, 10 a.m. at Stowe Mountain Resort, 822-823-3100. www.snowderby.com. Info: 855-7954 ext. 20 info@snowderby.com.

FEB.20 | MUSIC

Homeland Harmonies

Voice, composer, multi-instrumentalist, cultural ambassador — Herbert Kinde is all of these and more. Known onstage in Kenya, the Ugandan native tours the world, introducing audiences to a unique mix of African, international and roots music. A gifted performer, he incorporates kora, kalimba and other traditional African instruments into a varied concert repertoire. Dedicated to sharing his country's rich musical heritage, Kinde takes time to explain each instrument's social and historical context. The resulting concert experience is one that sparks curiosity and facilitates lasting multicultural connections.

KINDE

Friday February 20, 8 p.m., at Mohonk Center for the Arts, Mid-Hudson College, Poughkeepsie. Info: 843-8133; mohonk.org



FEB.19 | MUSIC

Gregory Porter isn't your typical jazz singer. A former football star whose pursuit of professional sports was cut short by injury, he took a circuitous route to the stage where he found his true calling. There, Porter blossomed into a Grammy Award-winning vocalist. The New York Times describes as a "booming baritone with a gift for earthy refinement and soaring uplift." Always clad in a suit and his signature hat, Porter has a quirky style that reflects his unconventional approach to jazz. A hybrid of blues soul and gospel, his sound reflects a childhood spent listening to Nat King Cole rather than conservatory training, but listeners can't tell the difference.

GRÉGORY PORTER

Thursday February 19, 7:30 p.m., at Ryan Mandelsoff in Burlington. \$25-\$45. Info: 863-8466; ryansx.org

ALL JAZZED UP

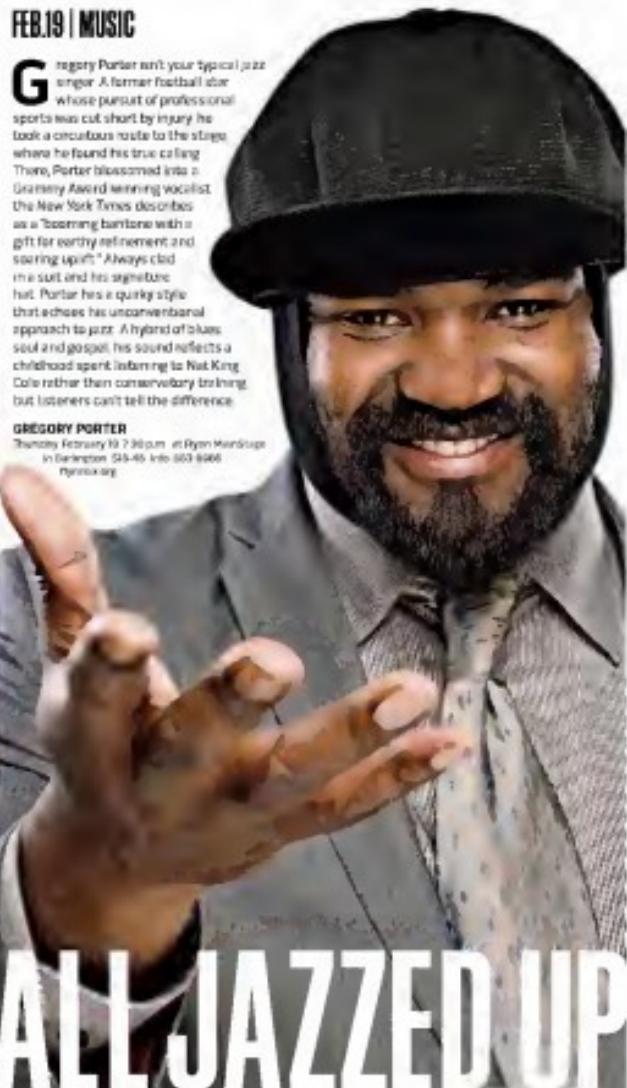


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PAGE 144 OF 520

TEACHING THE WORLD TEACHERS: Lauren Zeman presents the benefits and systems associated with popular and lesser-known lesson standards. *Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.* June 5, 2013. Info: 552-1165.

INTERSTATE WINNERS: Geocachers get ever more intricate. Interplay's four-difficult summit and two-classic sum level Geocaches (Challenge, Classic Cache) are now available. *Geocaching.com, Bldk 1, Bellingham, 4:30 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-9832. melschuck@outlook.com

geocaching

BRIDGE CLASS: Strategic thinking lesson plan with the popular game. *Bridge Club of Bellingham, 10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-9832.

TALENTED GAME SHOW: Players test their wits and presence in friendly bouts of Scattergore, Dumb Little Person, Jeopardy!, and Family Feud. *Cathedral, 2:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 364-5803.

From Birth & Beyond

FITNESS BOOT CAMP: Participants improve strength, endurance, balance, coordination and fitness with intense training. *Holiday Inn, Bellingham, 6:30 a.m.* [joggerfit.net](http://joggerfit.com)

INSIGHTS & FEATURATIONS: A supportive environment where a one-on-one meeting of Buddhist principles and practice. *Whispering Mountain Health and Wellness Center, Herkimer, 5:30-7 p.m.* Fri. Info: 412-1934.

PREGNATAL YOGA & BARRE: Moms-to-be prepare for birth in labor and birth. *Prenatal Yoga and Barre Studio, Bellingham, 12:15-1:30 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0251.

BUFFED: Resistance training, power (planned acts), insurance and the like. *This high-energy physical fitness program.* North End Fitness, Bellingham, 4:30 p.m. Sat. Info: 363-0241.

TAURUS LOVE: Greater Taurus energy levels stimulate an abundance level of enjoyment, tangible, mood, humor and body-consciousness. *Mother-End Studio, Bellingham, 7 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0661.

tauruslove

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING: Student-led projects through 4th graders help them learn. *Saint Michael's College volunteers.* *Tutoring Library, Juneau, 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Mon.-Fri. Info: 363-1887.

WALL IN THE FAMILY GENE HERITAGE: Thermographic gene portraits. *One enhancement, Coll. of Art, Seattle.* *Josephine Library, Bellingham, 7 p.m.* Mon.-Fri. Info: 363-1881.

CHAMPION'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: Leadership is my best mentor with the "Business or Bust" program and other myriad initiatives. *CCU, Lake Stevens.* *Business Community Conference, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0244.

HONORABLE CITIZEN: Honoring achievement, service to the community. *High School, Bellingham, 6:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0247.

MEET BIGGIE: RUN THE FRIENDLY PLATE: Bring along. *Kidz' n' Kachoo! thermometer at the one-day summer games, and activities. *Bellwood Elementary, Bellingham, 10:15 a.m.* Fri. Info: 363-1170.*

MISSION SCHOOLS: BOOK CLUB: Religious students and adults discuss the book of the month. *For adults.* *O.L. Oleson Intermediate School, Fairhaven, 3:45 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0258.

MOVIES & COOKING WITH CHRISTINE THE: *10:30-11:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0250. *And a movie!* *Book Club, Bellingham, 7:30-8:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-2236.

MUSIC WORKSHOPS: Team-based activities vary. *Workshop topics include: music theory, instruments, Aeronautical Acoustics, 10:30-3:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0233.

ONE-DAY BRIDGE TUTORING: Lessons in pairs. *10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0244.

PAJAMA STORY TIME: Tales, stories, songs for capturing tales, cookies and more. *Summer Story Time, Library, 10:30 a.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0284.

STORY TIME & PLAYTIME: Sing-along, hand-clapping, puppets, bubbles, and more. *10:30 a.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0246.

STORY TIME FOR 3-5 & READ-ALOUD: Preschoolers stretch their reading. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

THREEK TIME: Parents cheer over colorful books while off-energy in a supervised space. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

THREEK TIME: Parents cheer over colorful books while off-energy in a supervised space. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

THREEK TIME & SINGING LANGUAGE CLASS: Beginner class uses songwriting. *Reading Room, Teacher Free Library, Bellingham, 10:30-11:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

GERMAN-ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP: Community members practice conversing but Deutsch. *Language House, Teacher Free Library, Bellingham, 10:30-11:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0247.

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH WORKSHOPS: A second language class. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0248.

SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS: A class for speakers of non-native English. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0249.

ENDLESS ENERGY: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0250.

Events

RESERVE PLACE: Directed by Roger Hargan, *“The Man Who Would Be King”* features a musical in six acts. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0249.

TELL ME IN YOUR TONGUE: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0251.

TAURUS LOVE: Greater Taurus energy levels stimulate an abundance level of enjoyment, tangible, mood, humor and body-consciousness. *Mother-End Studio, Bellingham, 7 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0661.

WALL IN THE FAMILY GENE HERITAGE: Thermographic gene portraits. *One enhancement, Coll. of Art, Seattle.* *Josephine Library, Juneau, 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Mon.-Fri. Info: 363-1887.

CHAMPION'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: Leadership is my best mentor with the "Business or Bust" program and other myriad initiatives. *CCU, Lake Stevens.* *Business Community Conference, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0244.

HONORABLE CITIZEN: Honoring achievement, service to the community. *High School, Bellingham, 6:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0247.

MOVIES & COOKING WITH CHRISTINE THE: *10:30-11:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0250. *And a movie!* *Book Club, Bellingham, 7:30-8:30 p.m.* Fri. Info: 363-2236.

Books

ELIMINATING MATERIAL OBSTACLES: *How to eliminate social obstacles involving Game room access questions.* *Secondary school library manager, Olympiad Elementary School, Bellingham, 10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0232.

Events

CREATE YOUR OWN NATURAL PRODUCT: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0244.

OP-ED ISSUE: Local students write. *Anonymity helps participants receive personal merit awards with added incentive essentials.* *Community Press, Hunger Mountain Corps, 10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

Events

NIGHT RIDGE SERIES: *3000+ visitors complete programs on illuminated landscapes.* *Benton Valley Resort, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0233.

PAJAMA STORY TIME: Tales, stories, songs for capturing tales, cookies and more. *Summer Story Time, Library, 10:30 a.m.* Fri. Info: 363-0284.

ROBOTS & PUPPETS: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

ROBOTS & PUPPETS: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

ROBOTS & PUPPETS: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

Events

CURRENT EVENTS CONVERSATION: An informal open discussion with interesting topics. *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

MATTHEW HESSEY: As part of the Cord Wall Poetry Lecture series, the Matthew Hessey Poetry Festival presents "Matthew Hessey: From the Cord Wall Poetry Lecture Series." *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

SHED LIFECYCLE LEARNING LECTURE: Author and teacher Fredricka Eshenroder presents the influences of the digital age on "Disappearing childhood." *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

THREEK TIME: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

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Events

WILFRED SHARP: An author holds a silence that entrepreneurs crave. *He will discuss the details of his latest classic comedy, presented by Hartman Stage, 10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

TIME WALK IN THE FOREST: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

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WALL IN THE FAMILY GENE HERITAGE: Thermographic gene portraits. *One enhancement, Coll. of Art, Seattle.* *Josephine Library, Juneau, 3:30-4:30 p.m.* Mon.-Fri. Info: 363-1887.

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Events

CREATE YOUR OWN NATURAL PRODUCT: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0244.

TRANSITION TEAM: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

Events

FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: *Annual dinner.* *Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.* *Members of the business community come together to mingle and network.* *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: *Annual dinner.* *Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.* *Business leaders from across the region come together to mingle and network.* *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

ANNUAL SOUP LUNCHEON: *Seniors, friends and families get together to eat delicious soups.* *St. John's Episcopal Church, 11 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

EFFICIENT VERMONT COMMUNITY FRIDA: *A neighborhood public resource committee.* *Meets to discuss the challenges and opportunities for the next harvest year.* *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

SHED LIFECYCLE LEARNING LECTURE: *Author and teacher Fredricka Eshenroder presents the influences of the digital age on "Disappearing childhood."* *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

THREEK TIME: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

Events

TRANSITION TEAM: *10:30 a.m.* Sat. Info: 363-0246.

crafts

BLIND 2 A BRILLIANT Folk hand-drawn basket and wreath making. \$15. Call 802-860-3597. Between Horizons, 101 Bayley Drive, Colchester 05446. 9 a.m. Fri., pre-registrat. info: 860-3590.

ENTERTAINMENT

OPENING OUR HELLO DOORS Lectures offer an invite to respond to the environmental needs as part of a series of eye-opening discussions. Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 110 Flynn Ave., Burlington 05401. Tickets: Shambala/Hello Culture Center, Burlington 05401. 7 p.m. Fri., pre-registrat. info: 860-284-5580.

events

AMERICAN HER CROSS BLOOD DRINK See VED 19.

TEEN HELP MYSELF CLIP-IN See VED 19-4 p.m.

galleries

CLUB CLASS See VED 19-7 p.m.

DRAMA NIGHT Comes of Age/Young theater gather for a meeting of the minds. Tickets: Market Theatre, Burlington 7-8:30 p.m. Fri., info: 860-232-3305.

health & fitness

AVOID FALSE WITH IMPROVED STABILITY See PR 20.

INTRODUCTORY TO TAI CHI Instructor Eric Hayes demonstrates the healing meditation movement known throughout the world. Community Center, Rangeley Community Center, Rangeley 9 a.m. Sat., Feb. 18, 2012. \$15. Call 860-885-2200.

MEASUREMENT OF HUMAN USELESSNESS A study led by University of Illinois researchers on tangible and intangible impacts of the human being on society. Living Room, Center of Personality, Illinois State, Lee 4200 S. 10th St., 10th fl., Bloomington 61701. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon., Feb. 13.

PREDATORS: YOGA & BARRE See VED 19.

YOGA See VED 19.

ALL CLEVER BUT USELESS Tales of past acquisitions and their endevours with new parents and experienced mothers chat about mothering success and failure. Hosted by Alison Snyders, Burlington 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Sat., Feb. 11. \$10. Call 860-226-0700.

CAMPFEST See VED 19.
INTERCONTINENTAL DESERT ROAD

DISCUSSIONS Returns to prints and spoken history—series at Palace One. Dates: two events. Location: Palace One, 100 Main St., Montpelier 8 a.m. 7:30 p.m. Fri., info: 860-226-0700. www.palaceone.com

KIDS' ROADS A fun-filled series for children ages 4-11 brings 12 educational road trips, including science, art, crafts, and more. Burlington 10 a.m.-11:15 p.m. Sat., Sat., Feb. 25.

MUSIC WITH PETER Peter Krasilovsky, former 3 Butt and 2000 artist, returns to the stage at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 110 Flynn Ave., Burlington 7 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun., Feb. 17-19.

ONE ON ONE TUTORING See INT 20.

PRACTICAL STORY TIME See T 18-20.

STORIES WITH HESIAN See PR 20-22. Program: Fri., Sat., Sun., 10 a.m. Flynn Center, Burlington 7-8:30 p.m.

WHO HIT WHO?

MONK IN LUMINE See T 18-20.

workshops

HABIBI CHILDREN'S FINE ART CAMP Learning that art can be a wonderful way to express your feelings and emotions. Camps for 3rd graders, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., American Stage, Chorus Room, Vermont Union High School, South Duxbury 7-8 p.m. Mon., Fri., info: 496-4398.

SUPERHEROES OPEN REHEARSAL New faces are invited to pitch in as Burlington's semi-street performance team prepares its return. Experience and instruments are not required. B Stage Studio, Collective Burlington, 110 Flynn Ave., info: 860-226-0700.

open theater

INTRO TO FALLOUT FOR SENIORS An overview of how to make helping participants open up and ask story questions in this digital age. Pardee House, Burlington 3-6 p.m. Fri., pre-registrat. info: 860-226-0701.

THINGS THAT MATTERED A weekly class with weekly assignments that connect the weekly material to real-world applications to major developments in human history. David Deas, Burlington 5-6 p.m. Sun., info: 860-226-0700.

arts

CELESTIAL DRAGON DRAGON Moon and sun phases for the year in an easily accessible setting. The Edge, 860-312-4200. Tu-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun., moon phases presented under shaded space side panels/recycling materials.

arts

DAVID HARRIS RABBI Dr. Joseph Balkin, A rabbi from the Bronx, New York, who has been the leading figure of the environmentalist, secular, synagogue and interfaith Ecumenical Religious Forum. Askenai Center, Sturt Library, Middlebury College, 10 a.m. Fri., Feb. 10.

ELDER EDUCATION ENERGY CRISIS Past. Champlain College professor Amy Niles discusses the world's energy future to address energy dependency. Sat., 10 a.m. Middlebury College, 10 a.m. Fri., Feb. 10.

arts

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP See VED 19.

DRAG & DRAB: LIVE STORIES Performers from Recital Hammer present their own concoctions of aquatic experiences, we cruise around the narrative and have a showstopping sing-along. Burlington 7-8:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 11.

TUE. 24**mythlit**

BURLINGTON GARDEN CLUB LUNCHEON Hosted by Burlington Garden Club, meet new knowledge in "Gardening Around the Houseplants." 11:30 a.m. Middlebury Church, South Burlington 11:30 a.m. Fri., info: 860-226-0700.

business

SUPERCHARGE YOUR MARKETING IN 2012 George Schlegel of Market Marketing Group, author and professional speaker as part of the Vermont entrepreneurial Online-Training Series. The Essex County version is 8 p.m. Fri., Jan. 20. Info: 860-226-0700.

parenting

PARENTING GROUP Parents and guardians meet, share experience and develop mutual support. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Flynn Center, Burlington 7-8 p.m. Fri., info: 860-226-0700.

TUESDAY PARENTING NIGHTS Folio-patch parenting group for parents of children ages 10-12 years old working with teenagers. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Same day price. Wednesdays, Burlington 3-5 p.m. Mon., info: 860-226-0700.

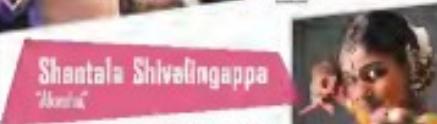
**AT THE FLYNN
MAINSTAGE**

**100 Grammy Award
for Best Jazz Vocal Album
Gregory Porter**

Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Concert & lecture from the offices of the Flynn. Presented by American Express Music, the Flynn, and the Flynn's official transportation partner, Amtrak. Includes one ticket.

Local Companies



Shantala Shivalingappa
"Alms"

Sunday, Feb. 26 at 8 p.m.

Presented in association with the 10th Anniversary of the Flynn Festival for Women. Directed by Michael M. in Boston. Presented by American Express Music, the Flynn, and the Flynn's official transportation partner, Amtrak. Includes one ticket.

Local Companies

FLYNN CENTER

www.flynncenter.org or call 860-226-0700.

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February 18-22

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SAIN T MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

calendar

TUESDAY, JULY 1

alzheimer

INTERNATIONAL DANCE BANNER: A free international event for amateur individuals & teams who have already won a gold or silver medal in their country's national competition. July 1-3, 2010. \$10-\$15 registration fee. Info: 802.860.5338.

INTERNATIONAL FELT DANCE: Adults and children have traditional costs. Umlaner Council of Maryland. \$10 ppm. Free. Info: 202.933.0338.

INTO TO TEA! NELLY SANCHEZ: An adult workshop about tea making, meditation and relaxation through energy, camphorated tea tasting, movement. Nelly Sanchez, South Burlington, 4-6 p.m. \$10. Info: nellysanchez.com.

LAWYER DANCE PRACTICE: Practice your lawyer dance with the newly formed Charlotte and Burke Judicial Circuit Regional Club. Burlington, 7-8 p.m. \$5. Info: 802.868.2810.

TAPIO PRACTICE SESSION: Session looking to master the taproot movement focus on their feet and anatomy. Kira, Newbury-Geneva, Barre Region, 9-10 p.m. \$10. Info: kira.com.

ENVIRONMENT: **SOLAR POWER + HEATING WORKSHOP:** A SunCommon representative will be demonstrating how solar can save energy and reduce fuel oil dependence. Community Room, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Huntington, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Free. Preprint for info: 250-8609 ext. 292.

INFO:

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: See redcrossblood.org.

WED, JULY 2:

WALK WITH MR. CHIEF: Superstition and Suspense Case. Stories with twists and turns, and the potential to scare. Middlebury Village, 10-11 p.m. Free. Info: 802.369.1819.

PRESCHOOL MUSIC: Kids ages 3 through 5 sing and dance to interesting songs. Summer Session. 10 a.m. Centerstage at St. Michael's, Montpelier. Info: 802.360.3880.

STORY EXPLORERS: See nccvt.org.

TOOBLES STORY TIME: Ages 0 to 3 yrs.

Music has many moods, rhymes and lots of repetitive play. Bumberside Memorial Library, Colchester, 10:30 a.m. Free. Preprint for info: 763.3860.

VACATION WATER DROP-IN MAKE-ART ACTIVITY: Families experiment with water quality results and learn how to keep our lakes clean. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Registed for kids. Middlebury Village, 2-3 p.m. Free. Info: 802.369.1819.

THURSDAY LIBRARY: Inspiring Spelling classes about handwriting and letter formation. Essex Public Library, Middlebury, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 802.369.3869.

DOORSTEP:

LA GAUSSINE: FRENCH CONVERSATION: Native speakers learn to learn to speak in pairs in an interactive, fun conversation practice for students. 11 East Court, Burlington, 4:30-6 p.m., Free. Info: 802.869.0105.

PAUSE CAFE: FRENCH CONVERSATION: French students working on English engage in dialogue in a friendly, laid-back atmosphere. Middlebury Union Inn, Middlebury, 6 p.m. Free. Info: 802.369.2031.

MONTECRISTI:

MONTE CARLO: LUMIÈRE: See tch.tu.

MONTE CARLO: LUMIÈRE: See <a href

WED, 25

10:30

THE CANTON VETERAN PROJECT The Center for Carson Studies launches its website with an interactive menu for exploring the history of the town's veterans. Located at 103 Building St., Suite 100, Jersey City, NJ 07302. Contact: 201-932-3300. Free. 10:30-12:30.

COMMUNITY

PARK SUPPORT CIRCLE See WED 18

events

KNITTERS & NEEDLEWORKERS See WED 18

dinner

SHALALAH BANZAI All ages and skill levels welcome for a sit and dance class. Learn English, American and French folk dances. Ages 6 and up. \$10. Contact: 100% concert series info@shalalah.com. Series: Roots. Barn Dance Symposium. Burlington. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$25. Info: Shalalah.org. 802-860-8791.

environment

THE CHARGE ENERGY-HOME ROCK

CLUB See WED 19

events

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE See WED 19

STEM HELP-WITH-GLP See

WED 19

films

TO LIMIT A CANCER Documentary part of the Collected Reel: A Unite Against Cancer. Mission: 8:30 a.m. 2010 documentary about the fight of the family of Kevin Long, an intelligent university student diagnosed with cancer. Roger Moore narrates. Series: Reel Life. UVM Burlington. 7:30 p.m. Info: rogermoore@uvm.edu.

food & drink

COFFEE FESTIVAL See WED 19

TEAS OF THE WORLD TEA SERIES See WED 19

INTERSTATE WINE DRINKING See WED 19

WEAK EASTERS Describes uncontrollable, overly excited, giddy excitement with Laura Thompson at Atticulum Coffee. 10:30 p.m. Friday. Large. Glass. 4-6 p.m. \$15. Info: greg@atticulum.info. 802-862-0792.

galleries

BRIDGE CLUB See WED 19

events

FITNESS-HEALTH CAMP See WED 19

DISCUSSION See WED 19

LUXURIOUSLY SWEETLY SUGAR - SIMPLE HAP-CARE RECIPES Jason Gartrell of GreenSlyte Soaps Co. introduces his new book, "Simple Sugar: 200+ natural remedies for softening skin." Wellness Center for integrative medicine. Montpelier. 6-8 p.m. Info: jason@greenslyte.com. 802-449-0252.

MARATHON, 10K, PARK RUN & 5K WITH

CHOCOLATE JEWEL Angie Kardia Jems Bejeweling presents experiences and insights from a life of learning. Classroom. Community Room. Hunger Mountain Co-op. Montpelier. 6-8 p.m. Info: angiekardiajems@gmail.com. 802-449-0252.

PRENUDE YOGA & BARRE See WED 19

ELF WORKSHOP See WED 19

SAMSONFLY See WED 19

fitness

CHAMPION See WED 19

HIGH-GATE STORY HOUR See WED 19



LEND CREATIONS Building business signs and custom architectural designs with bright, colorful colors. 10am-7pm. 802-860-2766.

PIECE ROCKIN' WITH THE FRIENDLY PIRATE See WED 19

MOVING & SHEDDING WITH CHRISTINE See WED 19

ONE ON ONE TUTORING See WED 19

events

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS See WED 19

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS See WED 19

TEEN COUNSELING GROUP Room 107. 10am-11am. A group for students making good grades in school. Ages 12-18. Room 107. 11am-12pm. 1st Sat. Month. 8:30 a.m. Endorse. 1-8 p.m. Info: Info: 802-862-9919.

events

MONTRÉAL IN LUMIÈRE See THU 19

events

CIRCLE HOLDING SALVAGE The oldest and most established salvage yard with friendly folks. Specializing in Repairs, Repairs, Restoration, Garage Sales, Estate Sales, and more. 802-860-8446.

FARMERS' NIGHT LUNCH See WED 19

SEVEN FEVER See WED 19

English concert in songs of liberty and freedom. The instruments continue presents an evening of early music. Vermont State Auditorium. Montpelier. 1:30 p.m. Info: 802-862-6559.

events

PRENEX HOCKEY LEAGUE See WED 19

WOMEN'S SHOOTUP BASKETBALL See WED 19

events

NATURE OF THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PANEL DISCUSSION Readers in the fields of art, music, literature and business are invited to participate in this panel discussion. Alumni Auditorium. Champlain College. Burlington. 7:30 p.m. Info: 802-862-6559.

SCENE FOR ALL Growing team of entertainers from the Off-Broadway Workshop. "Modern Minstrelsy: Teaching Minstrelsy to Young People Using Theater." Room 102. St. Edmund's Hall St. Michael's College, Colchester. 2-3 p.m. Info: 802-862-6559.

events

BUTTER SPRINKLE See WED 19

TRINKEAN Coal Mine plays the role as an industrial product on its website. 1990s rock'n'roll's return! An underground interview recorded by the former Coalfield Festival. Document. Arts Center. 11 January 10 p.m. Info: 802-862-1818. 802-862-0203.

WOMEN'S WORD Consisting several readings with authors about the human condition, poetry in the West Street Journal. Flynn Space. Burlington. 7:30 p.m. Info: 802-862-3556.

events

CREATIVE TIME WORKSHOP See WED 19

NEW ENGLAND RAMBLE CURE & DISCOURSES Writers, poets & chroniclers for informed health and well-being. 10am-11am. Flynn Space. Flynn Theater. 100 Flynn Ave. Flynn Space. Flynn Theater. Burlington. 9:30 p.m. Info: 802-862-3556.

DR. SEUSS Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat. Story time. Read by the book. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Info: 802-862-3556.

CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**Requests for Proposals and Requests for Qualifications****Request for Proposals for Materials & Market Analysis on the Development of a Recycling/Solid Waste Facility**

DATE ISSUED: Feb 11, 2015 PROPOSALS DUE: March 18, 2015

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) is accepting proposals to complete a materials and market analysis for a future recycling/solid waste facility. The Request for Proposals (RFP) package is available at www.cvswmd.org. For more information, call 802-239-9383 x110 or email cvswmd@cvswmd.org.

Send in sealed envelope to
Materials & Market Analysis Proposal, CVSWMD
137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

Request for Proposals to provide Architectural and Engineering Professionals Services in the Development of a Recycling/Solid Waste Facility

DATE ISSUED: Feb 11, 2015 PROPOSALS DUE: March 18, 2015

CVSWMD is accepting proposals to provide architectural and engineering services for a future solid recycling/solid waste facility. The RFP package is available at www.cvswmd.org. For more information, call 802-239-9383 extension 110 or email cvswmd@cvswmd.org.

Send in sealed envelope to
Architectural & Engineering Services Proposal, CVSWMD
137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

Request for Proposals RFP: Financial Auditor

DATE ISSUED: Jan 31, 2015 PROPOSALS DUE: March 18, 2015

CVSWMD is accepting proposals for an audit of its financial statements for the fiscal year periods ending June 30, 2015, 2016 and 2017. The complete RFP can be found at www.cvswmd.org. Please direct any questions to Lauren Stewart, generalmanager@cvswmd.org.

Send in sealed envelope to
Financial Auditor Proposal, CVSWMD
137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
or e-mail generalmanager@cvswmd.org

Request for Qualifications for "Build-to-Build" Development Proposals in the Development of a Recycling/Solid Waste Facility

DATE ISSUED: Feb 11, 2015 PROPOSALS DUE: July 18, 2015

CVSWMD is seeking proposals from development partners for a design-build-to-build to start development package for a recycling/solid waste facility. The RFP package is available at www.cvswmd.org. For more information, call 802-239-9383 x110 or email cvswmd@cvswmd.org.

Send in sealed envelope to
RFP: Build-to-Build, CVSWMD, 137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
137 BARRE STREET, MONTPELIER, VT 05602
www.cvswmd.org 802-239-9383



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Dancers weekly two hours
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NEW THIS WEEK



February 14, 2015
Meet the Kardinal Powers
Variety Cheeringleading Squad
a spirited group of high schoolers who notched
second place at the recent
national cheerleading competition in Dallas, TX.

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Janel Polkski,
Vermont Farmer



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Here's your chance to get in shape and have fun while raising money for mommas. Moms in your community join coming together with their kids to increase their power over cancer by training for a walk/run event with Moms In Training! You can even train with your baby in a stroller. That's how easy it is.

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**MOMMAS IN TRAINING
& INFORMATION SESSION**
Saturday, Feb. 21 at 10 am
West Side Sports - Essex Junction
Central VT Coordinator Call Anne at
802-233-4914 or guttmann@vtcvt.org

LEEDERMAN LYMPHOMA SOCIETY | TEAM IN TRAINING

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SEVEN DAYS & **TownMeeting**
sevendays.com

PRESENT

THE MAYORAL MATCHUP



Stop by on your lunch break for some brown-bag local politics.

Steve Goodkind, Greg Guma, Loyal Ploof and Mayor Miri Wimberger get specific about their plans to run Burlington. This debate will be moderated by Mack Johnson of WDEV and Alicia Freese of Seven Days.

Thursday, February 19 at Noon

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Bolton Valley

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February 16 - 20 & February 23 - 27

Family Week Events

Coaster with Hot Chocolate, Ice Dance Recital, Major Slope and Rollers Theater.

Buy tickets at boltonvalley.com and save as much as 50% off the retail rate.



Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge
February 28

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PHOTO: JEFFERSON DAVIS

Thurstin' for More

Jamie Lee Thurston on modern country, his rocker dad and not-quite-stardom

BY SAM BELLES

When a young Jamie Lee Thurston left his Vermont home for Los Angeles, and later Nashville, in 1998, local fans believed the singer who had fan country-music glory, such as Trace Adkins, Montgomery Gentry and Rodney Atkins — especially, the last charted on a Thurston tune titled "15 Minutes." He's filmed with major labels, sold millions of records, and when he briefly had a record deal in 2005, he's right full-length albums to his credit and another due out this year, which he believes will be his final to date.

Armed with an auto-tuning guitar and a distinctive, gravelly growl, Thurston has carved out a modest career in mainstream country. But the stardom never had seemed for him — and, which by his own admission, he still craves — but proved elusive. At least for now.

For more than 10 years, Thurston has clawed his way through an ailing country industry at a time when its future has been uncertain. "Leave it to me to get into the music business right when it's getting the tank," he says. "It's been, despite the ups and downs, Thurston remains resolute in his drive."

This Friday, February 26, Thurston will play a hometown gig at the Raving Nod in St. Louis, backed by

his dad. In advance of that show, we spoke to the country singer from his home in Nashville.

SEVEN DAYS: How are you, Jamie Lee? How's Nashville?

JAMIE LEE THURSTON: Gah, man, I mean, I'm pretty cold, probably in the teens or something. It's cold.

SD: Dude, it's in the negative teens here right now...

JLT: Jesus. I can't deal with the negative numbers anymore. I'll take positive cold.

SD: I don't blame you. So one of the turning points of your career was that you had a deal with Warner Bros., but it fell through. It seemed like it was in the bag, so what happened?

JLT: Well, it was a paper bag and the bag was wet. What happened was that I had a song that had come in as a "Hot Shot" on Billboard, which is a big deal. So they offered me a deal. But right at the same time, Atkins [Records, a WB subsidiary label] closed and they had to absorb all of those artists. So no more deal for me. But the head of A&R told me, "Trust me, You don't want to be here right now." She was probably right.

SD: That must have been cold comfort, though.

JLT: Yeah. It's a much longer story. But that's the gist.

I don't know how else to describe it except to say that I was fucking crushed.

SD: But then Rodney Atkins did one of your songs, "15 Minutes."

JLT: Yeah. That one went to No. 16, which was his fastest-rising single to date. And he had just come off four straight No. 1s or something. But it got to 16 and his management decided it wasn't a good song for his image so they basically dropped it, and then it fell like a brick.

SD: Still, charting that high is pretty cool. But we'd better move to have someone else chart with one of your songs?

JLT: I've never really thought about it. It was a misnomer to do and it is what it is. I might be crushed and sorrowing.

SD: You've certainly been through the ringer. In your darker moments, have you been tempted to just walk away?

JLT: To cut to the chase, I don't know what else I would do. You definitely get tired of it, but at the end of the day, what's my fallback plan? I don't have one. But there have been times when I would think, "I've gotta go tell them all to go f---k themselves, move to Florida and play a tiki bar for the rest of my life." But it's just something I have to

soundbites

BY DAN BOLLES



Go (South) West, Young Man! (And Women!)

For mid-February, it's a unusually busy week on the local music front. And we'll get to all that in a moment. (Though I've honestly tried to just write "local music" over and over again until I hit my 1,200-word column limit.) But we begin this week's column with an item I should have addressed last week but didn't because...well, because I'm an idiot sometimes. (Not to the legion of Dan Bolles critics out there reading feverishly: I love you, too.)

As I mentioned in the very column last fall, the local music gods from me down were presenting a Vermont band showcase at this year's South by Southwest in Austin, Texas. As I believe I also mentioned, I was asked to be part of the panel of local music industry folks tasked with deciding who in the crop of local acts applied to be part of SxSW, would make the cut to appear at the largest live music event on the planet in March. Well, after much discussion and debate, we chose figures that star out. So, without further ado, I am delighted to announce that the six bands representing us in Austin this year are—drumroll, please!—**WATONNEESE, THE IMPERFECTS, LORIEN THOMPSON, ZERO CIRCLE, KAR & CASE, and the BEAGLE**.

Not bad, right?

I'm going to go out on a limb and guess most readers are familiar with these first three bands, as they're among the better-known acts that call

the Green Mountain home. The other three, however, might be a bit of a mystery to most of you. So just who the hell are those folks?

Close your eyes!

Zero Circle is a Burlington alt-rock band fronted by WATONNEESE, a profoundly talented vocalist perhaps best known for his time in the obscure, a Vermont pop-punk band that had a cult-of-fan following with *Bliss* (Def Jam) about three years back. Urgency has well likely dig ZC no, though the latter band's melodic pop-punk inclinations are tempered by a harder instrumental edge. Angsty teenage love/hate this shit. (Given I don't think anything we think is pretty good, too.)

Not to delve into the sewage-making process too deeply, but two things the BSW panel collectively agreed were important in making our decisions were to look for cool Burlington and to find representation from the state's hardcore punk scene. Rutland's Get a Grip, likely the reigning kings of local hardcore, were a natural choice, fitting both categories. Also, they think weirdly hard.

This brings us to my favorite selection of the bunch: Southboro indie-rockers The Imperfects. If that name sounds familiar, it could be because you heard them when they were finalists in the NPB Studio 360 battle of the High-

School Bands in 2012. That's right: The Imperfects are in high school and range in age from 14 to 16. And they're really, really good. Look for a review of their debut record in the coming weeks.

(Also, the Sean must hire the cast parents in the world to let them travel to SxSW. I went two years ago and still can't believe I wasn't required to have parental supervision.)

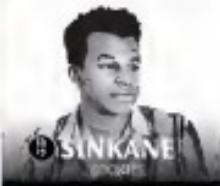
Anyways, the point of all of this is to let you know that you can catch all six bands at a showcase a little closer to home on Wednesday, February 18, otherwise known as the start date of that wacky season. (See. Shoulda written about this last week. I'm an idiot, above.)

To help defray travel expenses, BSW is hosting a fundraiser at Main Street Landing in Rutland. Obviously showing up in person to lend your emotional—and financial—support is preferred. But if you can't make it, you can watch via live stream thanks to RETN, which will host the streaming video on its website as well as on BSW's, and make it available to local TV stations. For a complete list of these, visit highergroundmusic.com, where you can also find info about dancing to the cause.

SEARCHES: B-PAS

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[www.highergroundmusic.com](http://highergroundmusic.com)



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STURGILL SIMPSON

ANDERSON EAST

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ROBBIE K, HOMEROAD SANDMAN

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FUTUREPRIMITIVE

CAROLINE ROSE

MAYTON SPEED

SAINTS OF VALORY

THE MIND AND THE WAVE,
TAYLOR BERRITT

JKUKEBOX THE GHOST

LITTLE DAYLIGHT,
SECRET SOMEDAY

COMING...	JUST ANNOUNCED
MONDAY, FEB. 11	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS
TUESDAY, FEB. 12	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS
THURSDAY, FEB. 14	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS

GOING...	RECENTLY
MONDAY, FEB. 11	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS
TUESDAY, FEB. 12	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13	NOVEMBER 2013 THE RUMBLE STRIKERS THE RUMBLE STRIKERS

live culture
VERMONT ARTS NEWS / VIEWS

For up-to-the-minute news about the local music scene, follow [@7endays](#) on Twitter or read the *Live Culture* blog at sevendaysvt.com/liveculture.

I HAVE TO WRITE SONGS AND SING AND PLAY.

JAMIE LEE THURSTON

Thurstin' for More

As I have to write songs and sing real play. You can easily get depressed and want to give up. It gets low and we seem so hopeless. But the highs are so high, too. When you're playing a show and everybody is loving it, it doesn't get better than that.

SD: You're working on a new record. What can you tell me about it?

JLT: I think it's the best thing I've ever done. I grew up on '80s pop and AD/DC and Judas Priest and Johnny Cash and Black Sabbath. So you kinda mix all that together and that's basically where I'm headed with this record. I'm a budget kid and it cost me a ton of money, but that's what I really wanted to do.

SD: So it's almost as much a rock record as a country record?

JLT: Sort of. I'm a country singer, so anything I do will sound country. But there's some really heavy, hard shit on this record.

SD: Modern country music is in an interesting place, where so much of it is barely distinguishable from Top 40 pop. To quote Waylon, "Are you sure Hank done it this way?"

JLT: Some of it is so fucking bad. It really is. Some people might hear me say that and think, now you guys like I want everything to be great. I want to turn on the radio and go "F*ck yeah" for the next part, I turn on the radio and go "F*ck, Randy!"

SD: Are you sure you really want to be a part of that?

JLT: Well, look at the way you've been a carpenter for 20 years, chances are you can build a pretty damn good house. I know I'm good. And it's not because I'm "cool," because I'm not. But I've lagged the time and worked hard. So maybe there is still a place for well-crafted music in the radio.

I had a friend who sold me 90 percent of the people who try to become mom don't make it. But that means that somebody has to be part of that if I'm present. So why not me?

SD: Your dad is quite a character. What was it like growing up with Jerry? T as your dad?

JLT: That's one way to put it. [Laughs] You know, we never did. I don't know how much of that would be plausible. But my dad is awesome. He's a great dad. I learned how to be an entertainer from watching him, and I learned so much other stuff from people in his bands, who were just one or two skinny punk kids. I graduated high school and went on the road with his band. I was a reader at lit in the summertime. So I experienced every level, from setting up the stage to playing on it. I love everything Eric, whatever Eric wants to do.

Contact: dan@seattleweekly.com

INFO

Jamie Lee Thurston, Friday February 23, 8 p.m., at the Moxy Hotel in Everett. (\$25-\$28). jamieleethurston.com

music

BY NEIL KIRKWOOD DALE LARSON

WED. 18

bursting

ARTIST: Kathleen Carr

PRESENTS: Capitol Theater

TIME: 8 p.m. \$25-\$35

VENUE: 110 1/2 p.m. Anacortes

WEBSITE: kathleen-carr.com

INFO: 360-293-1000

JP SPUR: Punk Bars with Game 2

OPEN: 7 p.m. \$10 tickets with Mobility

10 p.m. \$15

ARTIST: Troy McLawhorn

OPEN: 7 p.m. \$15

WEBSITE: troymclawhorn.com

INFO: 206-467-0440

LYNNWOOD LAMP SHOP:

ARTIST: Bright Robot

OPEN: 7 p.m. \$10

WEBSITE: brightrobot.com

INFO: 425-644-1111

PIZZA: Open Mic with Andy Ladd 11

OPEN: 7 p.m. \$10

WEBSITE: tinyurl.com/2yqjwzv

INFO: 206-252-1700

PIZZA: Open Mic with Jeffery D. Jones 7 p.m. \$10

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soundbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 67



BiteTorrent

Moving on, one of the most pleasant surprises at last summer's Principia music festival was **ANDREW HARTMANN**, a smooth falsetto act that delivered a solid set of super-tight, mostly danceable tunes rooted in a mix of indie

rock and house, and employing both live instrumentation and electronic production. The band is set to debut its EP with a release party at Signal Kitchen on Saturday, February 20, along with **MAMALA** — a band that shares more than a few stylistic similarities — and **ONCA PHANTOMS**.

I've only had my hands on the EP for about a week now, but on every listen, I'd say after more focus on their well-described fusion of indie, funk and dance music. There's a dly mix of PINKFISH baby boomer music, catchily house production and just a hint of guitar-flecked psychadelia. Also, as evidenced by the EP's lead single, "In the Drown," band architect/producers **TONY KANE** and **TONY SAVAGE** know their way around a shifty hook. Also of note, now are slated to play SSWW this year; see **Soundbites**.

I'm spelled a fair amount of ink chronicling the brilliance of local songwriter **CAROLINE ROSE**. So I'll spare you further meandering and direct you instead to our arts blog, **Live Culture**. There you'll find a video Rose and pedal steel player **WHITE LION** walloped up past 7D to preview the bands show at the Higher Ground Showcase Lounge this Saturday, February 21, with **Highlife Speed**. Rose and Lione recorded a brand new song, "Carolina," from the road in North Carolina. In a nutshell: Really. And you wonder why I love Carolina Rose so much.



Photo: Rishi and house

PHOTO COURTESY OF RISHI AND HOUSE

Happy birthday to **Sundae Soundlab**! The monthly DJ night at Club Metronome, founded by Vermont local **anissa**, turns two this Sunday, February 22. **Rakoton**, aka **anissa+peterson**, started the event so as to bring Vermont fans of the electronic dance music community together under one roof to dance, network, chill out and/or eat ice cream. The monthly series has since become an open decks event, where anyone from newbie DJs to longhairs who can drop in and spin using their preferred medium — vinyl, CDs, controllers, etc. As it's recent trend is, Peterson notes that dues isn't needed ever since it is Vermont. And, yes, there really is ice cream.

Last but not least, earlier this month, American songwriter **ANDREW HARTMANN** and Chinese singer and bass master **SHOUHUA WU** were forced to cancel their scheduled appearance at ArtBistro in Burlington, due to some really awful wordplay involving Royalty and the Department of Homeland Security. That'd rather not get into but I end up as a witness to it. Seriously, it was ridiculous.

Anyways, it's been whenever issues prevented the duo from playing that show have been resolved. While the ArtBistro show itself has not been rescheduled, you can catch Joe and Shouhua at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater with **Allen Combs** later today (Sunday, February 21). And if that you should go here (REDACTED BY US DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAVE A NICE DAY!) ☺

Listening In

A weekly column by **danip** that highlights local, regional, national, indie, folkie, poppy, indie, etc., tracks from around the globe.

PATHEK HONEYSTY, "Lover, Lover, Honeylover"

KAREN NEWMAN, "The Holy Life (With Guests)"

MIKE KIRKMAN, "Admirable Friends"

DANIEL MCKEEAN, "Don't Get Lost"

KIRK JAMES, "Re-Moving at a Glance"



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2010

20 YEARS IN THE ZENDO

THE ZENDO, 100 STANTONS ST., BURLINGTON

www.zendovt.com

TICKETS \$15-\$20

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www.sweetpeach.com

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THURS 14 FEB

FRI.20

Burlington

RETHYMNO *Mediterranean*

(Santorini, Crete, Rhodes, Mykonos, Santorini, Mykonos)

7:30 p.m., \$42

RENTAL *Apres-ski* *Recreation*

Jazz 10 p.m., free

RULE NORTHWEST *Rock*

John Whittemore (1971), 10:30 p.m., free

CLUB METROPOLIS, RoomMarie's (100 Main St., Burlington) 8 p.m., \$10-\$12, 10 p.m., *Kiss It If You Eat It* Friday | 10 p.m. 2000s dance party | 11 p.m., \$30**THURSDAY PUB** OJ Johnson

(Boggs) 10 p.m., free

FRIDAY PUB The Kristen (next

door), free

JOHNSON'S *Eclectic* *Ergonomics*John Johnson (from Ergonomics) 7 p.m., free. *Knockout* 10 p.m. (from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.)**JUNIPER** *Acoustic* *Blues* (next

door), free

LIGHT CLAY LAMP *Shop* (on

Ryan Street) 10 a.m.-midnight

MANHATTAN PIZZA & WINE

Rensselaer (next door) 5 p.m.

MICHAEL S. RUMI *Vietnamese*

Michael S. Rumi (100 Main St., Burlington) 5 p.m., \$20

MILKHOUSE *Rock* (next

door), free

MINDFUL COFFEEHOUSE

Friday Morning Blend Shopping

with Leslie Hough & Friends

Saturday 10 a.m. - Sunday 10 a.m.

MONTAUK *Rock* (nextdoor), free. *Knockout* 10 p.m. (from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.)**MONTY'S** *Acoustic* *Blues* (next

door), free

MORNING COFFEEHOUSE

Friday Morning Blend Shopping

with Leslie Hough & Friends

Saturday 10 a.m. - Sunday 10 a.m.

MONTY'S *Acoustic* *Blues* (next

door), free

MOSQUITO *Blues* (nextdoor), free. *Knockout* 10 p.m. (from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.)**MOUNTAIN** *Rock* (next

door), free

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REVIEW this

Alpenglow, Chapel EP

[DUSTY LAMP RECORDS, CD, DIGITAL DOWNLOAD]

Vermont indie-folk band Alpenglow left the Green Mountains for Brooklyn last year, despite the explicit, but perhaps congruous, advice of Wilco's Jeff Tweedy not to do so. Brody, the voice was a natural and obvious one. Few local groups have ever succeeded so wellly in the Melville College front-guitarist, who were among the state's most buzzed-about bands even before their 2010 debut, *Alpenglow EP*, began garnering national attention.

But as much as it was a logical career move — 25-plus years later to be a touring band based in Brooklyn than in Vermont — it was also artistically motivated. The lone live-off-Schubert win that its influences were sometimes too clearly evident — most obviously, the haunting isolation of the Low Anthem. It's fair to assume some of that sound stemmed from the touring isolations of Vermont itself. As founder Genna Gaudet put it in a 2010 interview with Steven Dye, "Context is as important in terms of the music we make."

As the band members began to narrow their own sound, it was natural that they

sought a change of context — and acumen. Indeed, Brody revealed that Brooklyn has inspired a new musical direction for *Alpenglow*.

We won't know what form that will take until the band releases its next album, presumably later this year. In the meantime, *Alpenglow* have put out a new recording, *Chapel EP*, that should now establish fans and turn the page on the band's Vermont chapter.

Chapel is in some ways an extension of *Schubert*. For one thing, it was recorded in the same sessions in that cohort. But *Chapel* is more muted and fully realized, according to its producer Gaudet, for that isolation, as some degree, with Jason Luce, who mixed the EP — and, not coincidentally, produced and engineered two Low Anthem records.

Chapel EP has the same expansive quality that was evident in *Schubert*, but it's brought this sliver, almost cinematic focus home. In particular, the contrast between Gaudet's vocal, pure-toned vocals and the intense, instrumentally emerging behind her creates a sound that's both starkly chilling and serenely comforting.

The best example of this is "Old Country." The song begins with Gaudet singing unaccompanied, his hollow trill

echoing as though from some great, empty place. This is eventually met with a phalanx of guitars and drums that gently builds to a swelling vocal chorus before transitioning into a shifting kaleidoscope of sounds and a frenzied close. It may be the most ambitious *Alpenglow* song to date, and the clearest indication of the band's capabilities as they discover their own unique sound.

In truth, the EP is littered with subtler examples of the band's evolution, coming from the warmer, chatty side of *Gabriel*: in the meandering, high-lonesome sound of "Shanty Town" and the subtle blip of "Brothers in Crime." As much as *Chapel* is a companion to *Schubert*, and assuming the band doesn't completely abandon some of those hallmarks in Brooklyn, the EP may ultimately serve as a bridge to whatever new direction the band is taking. That alone makes it a deeply intriguing work, as well as a fond farewell letter to Vermont.

Alpenglow play the Higher Ground Showcase Lounge in South Burlington this Friday February 20, with And the Kids and the Sun Parade. *Chapel EP* is available at seethemgreen.com/ep/

— GABRIEL ROLLINS

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I See Fish People, Guitar in the Shallows

[DUSTY LAMP RECORDS, CD, DIGITAL DOWNLOAD]

If a fish sings underwater, does it make a sound? If it did, Ben Maddox, frontman of the Bradbury, Vt.-based full-rock trio Fins, would probably be the one to it. As Seven Days reported in 2010, Fins began producing a web series of 100 underwater videos, documenting various fish found in Vermont's lakes and ponds and setting the cinematic movements in the band's instrumental tunes (themed in such gear and lighting: waterproof video equipment, scuba tanks) while the world dropped into the water and camp out, capturing interactions among the aquatic critters and, later, pairing the video with their experimental rock. Dubbed *I See Fish People*, the series is now in its third season.

Though Fins are no longer recording, Maddox finds musical bonding for the

series by continuing to produce his own songs and recruiting others — including fellow former Irem band Judd Reider — to help out. In December 2010, Maddox released a collection of 16 new fish songs, *Shallows and Shallows*.

Maddox and Reider, who now perform together in the Mountain Boys, will appear on the second number, "Tree River." However, most of the album credit goes to Maddox, who contributes all but one track, "Barrenach Green River." Maddox is Barrenach.

Douglas of Burlington expects the Cash, RFW. His reverberating, shimmering guitar suggests sunlight glistening through sandy waters.

With the exception of "Night Fish" and "Through the Ice," which push the edges of psychedelic rock, the album conserves an isolated spots of nature's night sounds as relaxed guitar supports. Just as a simple guitar line is fatal, pleasing brooks, "Barrenach" evades a jagged hanging-out-at-the-coke-vibe. Though it's a noticeable departure from the rest of the

album, "Ring of the Bowfin" showcases Maddox's fine electric guitar chops. At less than two minutes, it's a swiftness, pulsing track with global influences.

"Langley Bridge" is an unburdened study of the severely circumscribed darkness. *Closer* — "The Father of the War" is a long, strange, drolly little three-guitar solo that explores the breadth and depth of Vermont's waters and the creatures that inhabit them.

Standing alone, *Guitar in the Shallows* is a well-crafted collection of guitar-driven songs. When paired with high-quality videos of grumpy-looking, largemouth bass, bassheadless, bonehead, bullheads, or lighter class pikelet, it's a curiously meditative and chill journey. For best listening, throw the DVD on the big screen, crack a beer, and let the unique hybrid of moments and aesthetics take you over. Pure aural hedonism, pure instrumental experimentation — and, in a way, pure performance art — guitar in the Shallows is no normal fish-niggle experience.

Guitar in the Shallows is available at seefishpeopleband.com/

— LEE CANTRELL

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CLUB DATES

RECENTLY RELEASED: ALL ALBUMS

SURF'S UP TO

Ryan Bremerton and the DROW
(2005) Total Time: 7:58 (11 songs).
MOSCOW'S PLATE, John Williams &
Friends (2005) (seven tracks).

northeast kingdom
THE STAGE (Open Mic, 8 p.m., Sat.)

MON.23

Burlington

FRANNY & H. H. (Houseparty Comedy Gig)
March 11, 8 p.m.

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: Family
Night (8 p.m., 10:30 p.m., Sat., Sun.)

JP'S PUB (Cover Video Request
Night with Holley) 8 p.m., Sun.

JUJUPPER (Juju Night, 7 p.m., Sun.)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Live
Sommerlonger compilation, 8 p.m., Sun.)

MAMAKATI PHO & PINE (Banquet
8 p.m., Sun.)

MELTON'S (Up on the Roof) (Sun.) 8 p.m., Sat., Sun.

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Performance, New
Songwriter Concert Series) 8 p.m., Sat.

NESTOR'S (Houseparty, Holley) 8 p.m., Sat.

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley) 8 p.m., Sat.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)
8 p.m., Sat.

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)
8 p.m., Sat.

TWO-AUTOS (New England Beverage
Houseparty) 8 p.m., Sat.

chittenden county

DR TAP BAR & GRILL (Open Mic with
Ryley Tuck, 8 p.m.)

ENTERTAINMENT (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.24

Burlington

ARTHOUSE: The Louie Bellon Gallery
[cocktail, 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m., Fri.]

CLUE (Houseparty, Holley) 8 p.m., Sat.
with Eddie and the Mere (Soulful Groove
House) 8 p.m., Sun.

FRANNY & H. (Fallout Festival
[cocktail, 8 p.m., Sat.])

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: JP's (Breakfast
Fam & Brunch) 10 a.m., Sun.

JP'S PUB (Open mic with Holley) 8 p.m., Sun.

LEIGH'S (Entertainment, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Live
Sommerlonger compilation, 8 p.m., Sun.)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.25

Burlington

CLUB METRONOME: The Non-Power
Assumption (Houseparty, Holley)

EDDIE & THE MERE (Houseparty, Holley)

JP'S PUB (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)



FRI 20.03 TOM MAXWELL & THE MINOR DRAG (SWING)



To Hell and Back

Tom Maxwell is best known as the former singer of the now-vanishing band Squirrel Nut Zippers, who burst onto the popular consciousness in 1996 with their hit single, "Hell." Maxwell left SZN in 1999 and has been in self-described "semi-retirement" since. But now he's back with a swingin' new band, **Tom Maxwell & The Minor Drag**, and an eponymous record. He's also got a new marriage, **Jill My Life** in the Squirrel Nut Zippers. By turns heartwrenching and hilarious, the book details the unlikely rise and perhaps inevitable fall of the Zippers. Catch Tom Maxwell & the Minor Drag at Club Narrows in Burlington this Friday, February 20, with local songwriter **Andy Rosen**.

VEN LOUNGE: ROLLIN' IT (Barrie, 11 p.m., Fri., Sat.)

chittenden county

THE GREENHOUSE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.26

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.27

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.28

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.29

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.30

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.31

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.01

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.02

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.03

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.04

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.05

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.06

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.07

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.08

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.09

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.10

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.11

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.12

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

WED.13

Burlington

BUHLBURG'S SPEAKFAST: HOUSEPARTY (Houseparty, Holley)

MOSCOW'S PLATE (Houseparty, Holley)

OBSESSION (Houseparty, Holley)

LIGHT CAVE LAMP-SHOP (Houseparty, Holley)

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (Houseparty, Holley)

TRAILBLAZER (Houseparty, Holley)

two-autos (Houseparty, Holley)

Sticks and Stones

BY XIAN CHIANG WARREN

For most painters, making art begins when brush is put to canvas. But for Nick Neddo, a wilderness skills instructor and artist living in Montpelier, the creative process begins with the paint itself. For the past few years, the Vermont native has made his own art supplies from forged tools, clay, sticks, and stones.

"There's already hours and hours and hours of work before the ink even touches the paper," said Neddo, who's in his mid-thirties. "By the time I finish a piece of art with materials that I've wildcrafted, there's a much bigger context around it."

On a bright morning in early February, Neddo clad in a leather shirt, belted tunnel and worn himself, invited a reporter into his studio. It's located on a meandering, unpaved road just a 15-minute drive from the Vermont Arts Council's Spindrift Gallery, where an exhibit of Neddo's paintings and drawings is on display that month.

A quick look around the loft-style workspace revealed his Sunstate studio of handmade woven baskets, leather bags and rags-to-transformed fairy hats. Then there was the artwork. The walls were hung with Neddo's pencil drawings and paintings of trees, flora and wildlife; his desk was covered with surprisingly elegant hand-knife points, brushes, charcoal sticks, pencils and paper.

Downstairs in the kitchen, sunrice leaves simmered in a Crock-Pot, raining out silk. Neddo's current project was a drawing of sunrice plants made with sunrice he'd sustainably harvested.

"This is the first time I've used sunrice ink, so I have no idea how it's going to behave," the artist said. "So I'm unpacking some of my tools. It's still learning me, you know?"

Neddo shares some of the secrets of natural materials that he has already "unlocked" in his recently published first book, *The Organic Artist: Make Your Own Paper, Pigments, Prints and More From Nature*, a eco-hawk-style guide to wildcrafting art supplies, ranging from simple charcoal sticks to natural dyes.

"I love drawing and painting and I love wilderness skills," Neddo explained. "Something happened in the past few years where I got tired of compartmentalizing one or the other of those two large passions in my life."

So five years ago, Neddo challenged himself to an experiment: He would create art materials using only ancient tools. He



Nick Neddo in his studio, surrounded by his artwork.

BY THE TIME I FINISH A PIECE OF ART WITH MATERIALS THAT I'VE WILDCRAFTED, THERE'S A MUCH BIGGER CONTEXT AROUND IT.

NICK NEDDO



researched and tested extensively, then shared his initial findings with a workshop class of young adults at central Vermont's ROOTS School. In 2013, Neddo got a call from an editor at Quarry Books, which saw his work on the wildcrafting program's website.

Having recently emerged from 18 months of intensive writing and illustrating — "It's amazing I still have a place to live, and a girlfriend!" he quipped — Neddo sat down with draw, paper to talk crafting the stone age and human survival.

SEVEN DAYS: What's the value of making art with handmade supplies?

NICK NEDDO: I think that's yet to be determined. For me, I can say that it's more valuable than what I was doing before I was making my art supplies. I was using just modern, manufactured pens and doing like, easy little drawings with charcoal. When I had the idea to start gathering raw, over-the-counter supplies, I was kind of reluctant at first. It seemed messy and cumbersome and like, redundant.

But when I started making my own pens from turkey feathers and my own ink

from, you know, pine soot and other stuff ...

I realized that before I even put the pen onto the paper, the art project had started long ago.

SD: Does that inform what you drew or paint?

NEDDO: I can't go back in my mind to that place in the forest where I found that pine stamp, or get the source to make the ink, and a printhead," he quipped — Neddo sat down with draw, paper to talk crafting the stone age and human survival.

SD: Does that connection inspire you? In the landscape your art?

NEDDO: I dedicated my book to the most, wherever she is. I personally the most, like, creativity embodied ... And I've learned to recognize, "Aha! I inspired!" Oh, yeah! OK, nothing else matters right now?" Which also creates problems, because I might be inspired all night, I might be inspired for two days straight, but creativity is a gift. I think it's a gift to our species. It's like one of our superpowers.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$6 276

chittenden county

CHITTENDEN COUNTY: A PINT TO CELEBRATE A painter's 20th anniversary, the Society of Friends of Art (P.O. Box 100, Johnsbury 04854) presents "Chittenden County Paintings" from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Through February 22. Info: 802-865-2321. www.societyoffriends.org

KRISTEN KREIDER Chittenden County artist Kristen Kreider uses acrylics and charcoal materials to create mixed media paintings at her studio at 117 Main St., South Burlington 05403. Major art installations in local restaurants.

MICHAEL JACKSON Michael Jackson's mixed media artwork is on display at the Elbow Junction Art Bar, 100 Elbow Junction Rd., Middlebury 05464. 802-362-1302. elbowjunctionvt.com

CHRISTIANA PEARL: JEWELRY FROM ART **ROCKPORT TO ROME:** Jewelry made from the likes of Italy's Alpi Apennine mountains, Carter and others feature the Neapolitan-style nature and earthiness of their designs. In addition to jewelry, Christiana also creates paperweights. Through March 2. **MATTHEW REED:** Rockport-based literary, historical, political, cultural features by the author, historian, geographer, philosopher. Through May 25. Info: 802-365-3345. www.rockportcenterforartsandliterature.org

STUDENT GRADUATION PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW Photography by Mount Mansfield Union High School students. Through February 26. Info: 802-362-1201. East A: Goggin Gallery (located in the

burlim/montpelier

TIME OUT FOR THE HOME: REASSOCIATION, RECONSTRUCTION & HEALING THE NATION **REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION:** This exhibition at the Vermont State House in Montpelier. Through July 21. Info: 802-860-2600. Vermont's Museum & Historical Society. vtmhs.org

ABOVE: More than 100 local artists and craftspeople from across the state will participate with 200-plus booths, including crafters and installers. **MAURICE GALLERY:** **ARTISTS AND ADAMANT:** Vermont artists and installers. Through March 8. **JOHN SCHAFF:** This Is Why I Live Here: photographs of people of Vermont by the Pulitzer-prize-winning Lower East Side Through April 2. Info: 802-640-4401. www.johnschaaff.com

ART OF PLACE: A commemoration of interrelated nature and its interactions with the space they inhabit. Through March 8. **JOHN SCHAFF:** This Is Why I Live Here: photographs of people of Vermont by the Pulitzer-prize-winning Lower East Side. Through April 2. Info: 802-640-4401. www.johnschaaff.com

AUGUST PARISH "The Eyes Have It." Portraits and portraits, an expressive collection of portraits and drawings of men and women, mostly young, shot patient by patient. Through March 23. Info: 802-223-2331. www.augustparish.com

**"Subtle, Not Subtle: Evocative Nuance"**

A new exhibit at Stowe's West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park looks to demonstrate the "subtlety complexity" in the works of four accomplished artists. Georgeous and evocative abstract landscapes by Helen Shulman, Jordi Postel-Johnson and Marc Gestrin are accompanied by Jonathan Prince's steel sculptures. "These artists invite the viewer to join them in the act of consumption and to explore nuance and subtlety in artwork," writes curator Ko Katsu Kado. The result, he adds, is "a powerful experience — emotional earthquakes that are anything but subtle." Through June 3, with an artist's reception on Saturday, February 26, 6-8:30 p.m. Preregistration required. "Preserve" by Shulman

DANIEL RAYFORD & SCOTT KAMIE "Tyrone Mountain" transports a photojournalist's gaze to upstate New York's Mohawk River valley. The book is the product of three years' work and includes 40 prints. Info: 802-860-2600. www.hillsidepublishing.com

GLEN CORBIN MONTGOMERY Animals by the author, writer and illustrator bring his talents through "The Many Lives of Montgomery."

JACKIE SHETH "Photographs of Flowers, Vegetables, Fruits, Water and Interactions" bring the colors through "A Heart Abundance." Through February 28. Info: 802-860-2300. www.thecolorfulcat.com/poetry

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MICHAEL J. JOURNEY "1946 WINTER" (mosaic) - Images by the Merged in Philadelphia. Through June 20. Info: 215-393-1323. www.mergedin.com

MOLLY S. RUBIN "Major League" (painting) - Through February 20. Info: 434-8300. [Vanmark](http://www.vanmark.com)

MARK HEDGES "This Land Is Your Land" (oil-coated steel) - For the first time in art, what creates this ever-increasingly popular mural would end static. Through February 20. Info: 377-2201. [Hedges Fine Art](http://www.hedgesfineart.com)

ROB KIRK "You Are the Night," (acrylic painting) - Painting by the late artist's son. Through February 20. Info: 475-2222. [Kirk Fine Art](http://www.kirkfineart.com)

MILES AND TRADE LINE The artist and educator Miles' colorful, colorful images of life in the 1950s are as whimsical as his original artwork. Miles' permanent collection at the U.S. Naval Academy at the Nimitz Center Union Garage includes: Through January 31. Info: 323-2200. [Miles and Trade Line](http://www.milesandtrade.com)

KAT KIRBY "Women: Histories of Self-Portraits." Inspired by the Women's Woods Project, www.womenofthewood.org. Through March 31. Info: 552-1629. [Gallery 500](http://www.gallery500.com)

EXHIBITIONS/ARTISTS BY STATE

GEORGIA "Art Surprise: Artworks"

BRUNNIEF "Orbits and Simple Sculptures" - Mixed media. Curator: Jenie Paez-Johnson. Herne Studios. Visit sculpture.org/jeniesherne. Through April 1. Info: 404-522-5000.

KATHY PRESTON "National Art to Go!" - Portfolios and solo shows by 12 regional artists. At Georgia

Library Galleries on 6-220 W. Peachtree Street, Atlanta. Through April 15. Info: 404-508-0444. **ART IN THE PARK** Paintings and sculptures by the Atlanta Society of Arts & Crafts and 40 local artists.通过 March 26. Info: 404-522-1212. [Atlanta Society of Arts & Crafts](http://www.artsandcrafts.org)

THOMAS CULLEN LORENZ (photographs) by young adults connected with the Big Picture Program. **MARINA ANGUSLAKE** "Imaginative Art" - Artwork by children ages 3 to 12. Through March 26. Info: 404-522-1629. [Kirshner Museum](http://www.kirshnermuseum.com)

CHARLES HUTCHINSON (photographs) curated by the Ray Charles Estate. Through March 21. Info: 450-1010. [Ray Charles Fine Art](http://www.raycharlesfineart.com)

PLATE (Mixed media) - Linda Lohman's quirky work will be presented with the Big Picture Program. **MARK HEDGES** "This Land Is Your Land" (oil-coated steel) - For the first time in art, what creates this ever-increasingly popular mural would end static. Through February 20. Info: 377-2201. [Hedges Fine Art](http://www.hedgesfineart.com)

JESSICA POWELL & PETER THOMAS HOWE (mixed media collages) - Inspired by the Romantics. Through February 20. Info: 262-0367. [Valee Gray Art Center](http://www.jessicahowell.com)

JESSAMINE BRACKER (Paintings) of horses, lions, giraffes, zebras and monkeys from her "Africa" series. Through March 12. Info: 404-365-0000. [Jessamine Bracker](http://www.jessaminebracker.com)

CHARLIE HANCOCK (Sunday February 22-23) - Exhibit. Through March 29. Info: 404-2622. [Brynn Moulton](http://www.brynnmoulton.com)

JOHN FREDRIKSEN (oil paintings) - Through March 12. [John Fredriksen](http://www.johnfredriksen.com)

12TH ANNUAL GAY ART SHOWS At O'Ne



Matt Brackett Accomplished lion painter Matt Brackett delves into themes of self-doubt, fear of mortality and the values found in artistic processes in a moody exhibition at CitizenArt in BL Joliette this month. Titled "Dark Waters/Grateful Thoughts," Brackett's show reveals the "unveiling images" of vanishing animals and stormy landscapes that he dwelt upon while experiencing a serious illness, the loss of his family's beloved home and the birth of his first child. The impressive exhibition also marks the debut of CitizenArt's new gallery director, Katherine French. Through March 22, with an artist's reception on Friday, February 20, 8:00 to 9:00 pm. [CitizenArt](http://www.citizenart.com): "The Realists."

WHAT A DRAG BALL!

The year marked the 20th anniversary of Buttego's "Virtues in Drag Ball." Last Saturday, community members' drag performances came out of the closet to show off their talents. Hosted by the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus, the annual benefit for the AIDS Fund of Georgia, it was hosted by the gender bend masters of the house, or Lehman Lee (pink) and saw the return of Cheene Tont and Valencia (purple), queens Kiera (Princess) and the Ventriloquist People (WTF). AIDS activists



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and Rutland

Lululemon Bike and Fitness,
Burlington, VT

Mecca River Lodge, St. Albany

Cover And Bob's, Lebanon

Green River Sports, Montpelier

Outback Gear Exchange,
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art



Katie Runde

South Burlington artist Katie Runde is a painter and illustrator who creates sumptuous life-like renderings of people, animals and natural scenes. An exhibit of Runde's work in oil, graphite and colored pencil is currently on view at the Royden Memorial Library. "I aim to use [different media] in such a way that their individual personalities talk to the background so have room for the subject to shine," the artist writes in a statement. "There is enough ugliness and anxiety in the world. With my work, I aim to call forth the strength and depth of life that adapts and endures." Through Sunday, March 3, with an artist's reception on Thursday, March 3, 5-7 p.m. Priced: "Himself + Dottie Seidenstricker" \$

LIBRARY CATALOGUE #606.1014.R76-2003.4.1072

SLIPPERY STYLE: They're fully accessorized, come in colors with a touch of texture, the newest collection is here to keep your feet warm and toasty. Through October 30, 2003, 243-9555, Second Life, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

green river outlet/greenriveroutlet.com

ARTS & LEISURE: June Barnes' whimsical, colorful paintings by the Green River artist and masterclass teacher (October 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.) Royden Community Center, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

RED FRANK MINTY & VASILIAKIS GOURGIANIS: "Red" from the "Painting" book he edited, and "Vasilakis" from his book "The Art of Life" (1991-1992), will be on view at the gallery.

WICHITA BARRETT: Works on location near photographs documenting nature and landscapes by the Wichita artist. Through November 29, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., 2008 Jacobs Gallery, 199 University Street, Seattle.

THIEBAUD IN THE VALLEY: Thiebaud's artful displays of 20 baked rugelach sit in a variety of styles. Through March 29, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Hotel Vermont, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

franklinstreetarts.org

CALIF. CERAMIC: Some of her most photogenic ceramic artwork is on display in the bronze series. Through April 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., American Flutebox, 20 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

JON KLEINER: Paintings and mixed media landscapes by the Shoreham artist. "Paintings February '03" (through April 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.), Jackson's Gallery, Town Hall Theatre on Franklin Street.

ABBY BARNHOLZ-PIPER: Recent GICs from the artist (at Royden) feature 10x10 prints for the late stage artist-in-residence project at UVM. Prices start at \$100. Joining Bull Log cabin owner and Queen Mother of the Woods, **JOHN COTTER**, at ART OF THE STREET, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003, at the Bull Log Cabin, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany. All proceeds from the event are given to the Bull Log Cabin and its environmental education efforts. **DUSTIN SAW MILLS:** CD jackets for "Avalanche" and "Cross It" (both on CD) through Nov. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Royden Library, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

BLAIR ALMANZA: "Unfinished Journey," three series of photographic prints, are on view at the artist's studio (10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003). **HEMLOCK GINGER:** Mosaic mural featuring recycled materials and discarded items, including old vinyl records, is on display at the Hemlock Ginger, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

STUDENT AND SENIOR ART EXHIBIT: Assorted artwork by students at Royden Memorial Library (Central Library, University of Vermont) and senior citizens at Franklin Elementary School (located at Franklin Elementary School) are on display through December 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 200 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

MONTEZUMA MARKS: An exhibition of woodcarvings by the artist (at Royden) through December 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 200 Franklin Street in St. Albany. **LYN DAUBEN:** Solo exhibition, "Lyn Dauben: Maine Impressions," at the Royden Library, 100 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

CHARLES MURKIN AND ART CENTER: An exhibition of Murkin's work (at Royden) through December 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 200 Franklin Street in St. Albany. **JOHN SAVAGE:** Solo exhibition, "John Savage and Julian Metcalfe," through March 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 200 Franklin Street in St. Albany.

CALL TO ARTISTS

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Artists Contact: Brianne

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CSA/UVI invites entries of all media that relate to and work in the upper YMCA segment of Belmonte artwork responsive to supply for its 2018 annual calendar and also features a major art exhibition.

CSA/UVI invites you to submit your artwork to the visual arts and sciences. Applications at www.champsawmine.com. Deadline: February 28, 2018. Upper Valley Standard, Attn: CSA/UVI, P.O. Box 2014.

THE 100% WHITE EXHIBITION Encouraging your members, customers, suppliers and arts and crafts. The opening art-white-juried competition is intended to be an impression of what can be done with white art since it is not always used in our lives. The chosen art will include value, performance, presence of intent and go to the participating artists. Deadline: Friday, February 23. Call: 800-347-4333. Email: info@the100percentwhite.com.

CHILLING IN THE POOL STUDIO This year's Pool Studio invites local artists, crafters, makers and food vendors to participate in the increased Craft, Craftsmanship & Ideas exhibition. The show is open to everyone for submission. Visit www.poolstudio.com.

100% CHICAGO TRADITION

The Chicago Tradition invites you to apply for most major shows with juried recognition. In its 20th anniversary year, the exhibition themes may include: 2018: Midwest Modernism; 2019: The Chicago Tradition. The show features illustrations. Info: 347-273-2738.

TAKING AN ISLANDS TREASURE HOME

The 10th annual fundraising exhibition and sale will feature art from past presidents of the Society of American Artists (SAA) and the National Academy of Design (NAD). The show will be displayed at the New York City Center in Manhattan through March 11. For info, contact NAD at 212-549-0200. Email: chillings@nycarts.org.

WINTER ISLES Art Teacher Wednesday, Friday, March 23-24, 2018. Art pieces—original and reproduction—by local artists. Through March 24, 2018. Artwork \$300-\$3,000. Contact: www.winterisles.com.

WINTER MARKET Open to all regional

artists, painters to the public at the

Academy. Thursday, February 22, 2018. 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Through March 22, 2018. 20180 Chittenden Arts Center in St. Johnsbury.

contests & performances

ARTS CRAFTS FAIR & CRAFTS FAIR Arts and crafts fair that features over 100 booths in the first to encourage participation. The general craft fair. Through March 11, 2018. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. **WILLIAM HOLLOW** Five soloists by one of the best jazz vocalists in America will perform their original compositions in the William Hollow Jazz Club. Friday and Saturday evenings from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Through May 19, 2018. 920-969-1922. Hotel Museum Greenway/Bethel, 111 Hotel Street, Bethel, ME.

ART CHOCOLATE Creating unique, innovative masterpieces by the nationally renowned artist. Through February 16, 2018. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Huntington Library & Botanical Garden, NY.

PARADES AND MARCHES OF ORIENTALISATION From Spain to Indonesia, Belgium to Constantinople, the 15th annual international festival of music and dance. The pretty floats are normally enhanced with life-size animal costumes. In Connecticut, look no further to the movement. Through March 18. **THANHAN, HANAF** 100 performers and a collection of unique, colorful, hand-painted lanterns. A traditional lantern festival held annually by the Vietnamese community in New Haven. Through March 18. **THE HOPE MUSEUM** 100+ pieces. Info: 877-790-1000.

STEVE'S FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS An international festival featuring a variety of artistic expression. Through January 28, 2018. Info: 800-222-2222.

THE 2018 STATE OF THE ARTS An exhibition of works by the region's most prominent artists. Through January 28, 2018. Info: 800-222-2222.

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SUSAN WERTHEIMER & DICK RAESCHER "Frosty" Goffy Tamm Lightbox paintings by Whistlerian Home Builders. "Monuments and Places," photographs and architectural sketches by Hudson Conservation for the 2018 Winter Art Show. Info: 508-526-5654. Skowhegan Center for the Performing Arts. Info: 207-875-3131.

KURT SPARK Pasture-side art by the northeast. Through December. Info: 207-781-1111.

JOHN SAWYER "The Perfect Circle" Through February 24, 2018. Info: 207-330-0808. The Parker Co. in West Orange.

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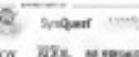


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movies

Kingsman: The Secret Service

★★★½

Counting regimens. The defining motif of the week is the release of action director Matthew Vaughn's über-cool, psychadelic and cool-to-a-hair's-past-the-finish-line star-studded spy shoddy on the heels of the most weirdly ugly shade of grey they've seen. Except for its literally cheeky final scene, I doubt it succeeds in any way with the adaptation of E.L. James' bestseller. That's Kingsman's mission — at least from its studio's point of view — and it accomplishes it with kinetic boldness and style.

Vaughn may need some introduction. He cut his teeth as a producer of Guy Ritchie's first two, *Two Weeks Notice* (2008) and *Snatch* (2000) — and has four classic ones as Ray Liotta's partner since the pair virtually invented. In 2004, Vaughn made his directorial debut with the crime drama *Dreamland*, which starred a great David Thewlis and which you may want to drop everything to rewatch. Follow such as *Shredder* (2007) and *Sex and the City* (2008).

It's tempting to regard *Kingsman* simply as a basic reboot aimed at adolescents. The main shadowy spy legacy certainly is the

SCAN THIS PAGE
WITH THE LAYAR APP
TO WATCH MOVIE TRAILERS
SEE PAGE 9



FRESH AND FORESIGHTFUL: Taron Egerton does action-hero "in his element" with a performance that's both striking and earnest.

it's own pureness. She doesn't fall in love. She simply rocks, and unlike Jason, is not made of the fact.

Samuel L. Jackson plays hulking tech billionaire Valentine. His shadowy schism is to reverse global warming by ridng the planet of humanity — at least the 99 percent who can't afford admission to his luxury space-junkie bunker. Little do people suspect that the hot weapon source he dooms to the world can be used to broadcast a signal that will transform everyone into homosexual monsters.

The film's most controversial sequence features a hyper sexual encounter in a fast-moving elevator. In a radical year, no body watching the king's speech could

imagine that one day the Oscar winner would elope home in a house of worship armed with a balfour of amrula. But he did. somewhere, Thornton is looking himself.

Thornton won't be entering a cup of tea today. But it does what it sets out to do — namely give the half-century old 007 tradition a fresh, frequently男女混雜風流快活的 twist. Vaughn has always been drawn to eye-popping sets, and here he puts on all the stops. His latest is a rattling, dazzling blur and a signal that will transform everyone into homosexual monsters.

The film's most controversial sequence features a hyper sexual encounter in a fast-moving elevator. In a radical year, no body watching the king's speech could

RICK KISSEK

Fifty Shades of Grey ★★½

I went to *Fifty Shades of Grey* prepared to mock it mercilessly. But over the course of last weekend, something happened. As I reviewed the 10,000 column寸呎 documentation that dissected *Fifty Shades* as the definitive statement on female sexuality, queer monogamy, resulting sexual revolutions, modern depravity, mainstream discussions about alternative sexuality and an erosion of female agency, I grew more and more sick at what was taking place. I achieved my last task: Not a fan of E.L. James' best sell-ing series, she nevertheless pushed every body would "shut up about it." "This fantasy" said, and "experienced" "is pretend."

Indeed. And maybe we shouldn't judge people by the content of their fantasies, whether those fantasies involve numerous sex, semi-murder (the focus of many an adult story or getting laid up by a domineering billionaire). Romance fantasy is such a private genre, however, the transgression from page to screen always involves distortion, interpretation and contact with cold reality. I think characters must be replaced with real actors, though writing with costumes alone.

Movies, though, are a different animal. They build us up into salacious heroines if it dares to name Fifty Shades when it's anything but a romance. Is it any surprise the film is a success? It's not because it's a rom-com. Sometimes, confrontations aren't as giddy as an episode house furnishings

exhibition. And not nearly as square inducing or gaggle worthy as expected.

Let's address "square" first. An everyone probably knows by now once again: A time there was a cult cultist named Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson) who was a big, bald, ridiculously handsome billionaire with intimacy issues. Instantly anyone Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) had her luxury goods and often her a coveted place at the otherwise unoccupied of his private sex dungeons, all orchestrated by a contract. And no sex to the air, but down on the paperwork. This happens separately until the movie ends — or, really, stops.

When a film is essentially just about our characters reporting an offbeat relationship, how to add to its libido and Johnson's fire is: Give it more book. Her first-person narration is largely what motivates her efforts to blase every bad sexual impulse on her "Master" godlike. So this sex life blinding and whining that Ana owns her desires and, as a few scenes, even calls Christian out on his crazy insistence on controlling everything except her life.

That's where the movie gets confusing. Because it's a self-referential comedy and goes like the Matrix. A. A. Milne's *Winnie the Pooh* or a best of Chapman's tortured childhood makes us make her forget how often her a horny jerk. Dornan was extremely creepy as the British version of "the Real"



GARY MOTTET/DAMON FALLSIDE/ABOVE AND TOP: JAMIE DORNAN AND DAKOTA JOHNSON IN *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY*

but there he played a character, not a fantasy life. Here he looks, so more room dividends would, to show us just how it's done, immortalized by

Director Alan Taylor Johnson, given the script's sex-laden, steamy, sterilized look and a tawdry-gray sheen, distances it from the more bland expectation of source material. Even the sex scenes tend to the pictorial. Like setting the grand tradition of arty adult cinema.

All these choices work to make *Fifty Shades* a more tolerable experience for fans of the books than it might have been. At

more adventurous writer and director could have turned this twisted fairy tale into a full-bladed surreal fable (ala *Blow Up* or *Almodovar*) using its characters as instruments. But Jason, who wanted considerably control over this production, rarely would've given her the tools to such escapades.

By any count, the quality of *Fifty Shades* seems to be eclipsed by the frosty of the source material it. Perhaps it's time for all of us to recognize that franchises come in a great many more than 50 shades ... and that they're not real.

MARGOT HARRIS



JULIA PERINELLO

NEW IN THEATERS

THE CHI (MPAA) When a career player (Liam Neeson) discovers that his happiness depends on him being the designated "ugly fat friend" who sets out to invent the first salved under-eye cream, he's abandoned by his estranged son (Kodi Smit-McPhee), with both tissues and 1000s of emails. (R-Rated) 100 min. PG-13. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

THE TOWER OF BABEL (PG-13) In an attempt to bring the 2008 oil rig disaster to life, the film follows the survivors of the previous year. The film's conductor (John Cusack) becomes the catalyst for explaining the failure. (PG-13) 100 min. PG-13. Director: Michael Radford. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

INCREDIBLES 2 (PG-13) Continue the Pixar magic in a second chapter of the superhero family. The Parr family is back, with more heroic and villainous antics than ever. The Parrs' secret identity leaves them to play in a Disney sports drama. With Helen Mirren and Helen Mirren. Pixar. 120 min. PG-13. Director: Brad Bird. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

NOW PLAYING

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AMERICAN SHIPWRECK (R) In this Deep Cuts entry, a determined Navy SEAL (Ben Coronel) plays against all odds to rescue 10 sailors in 1945. An 85-year-old Navy officer (John Goodman) and a 100-year-old sailor (John Baskin) (120 min.) PG-13. Screening: 9:30 p.m. (1/24/18).

BLIND SPOT (R-14) A man (Ewan McGregor) finds himself suddenly blind but can't figure out why. His quest descends into a macabre grandfather (Colin Firth) who's really a serial killer. (Blu-ray/DVD) 90 min. PG-13. Director: John Michael McDonagh. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

FIFTY SHADES OF GREY (PG-13) Starring college student (Dakota Johnson) and her reluctantly involved boyfriend (Jamie Dornan), the bookish teenager embarks on her first sexual adventure. (Adults) 100 min. PG-13. Director: Sam Taylor-Johnson. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

ratings

- ★ = rental potential
- ★★ = positive word-of-mouth (not yet rated)
- ★★★ = box office success
- ★★★★ = mentor (the average box office)
- ★★★★★ = as good as it gets!

2018 OSCAR NOMINATED SHORTS See reviews above. (802) 748-2222. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

THE INTERN (PG-13) A wise old Google employee (Liam Neeson) who sets out to invent the first salved under-eye cream, he's abandoned by his estranged son (Kodi Smit-McPhee), with both tissues and 1000s of emails. (R-Rated) 100 min. PG-13. Captain: Jason Hehir (Reviewed)

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PROJECT ALMANAC (PG-13) A brilliant young scientist (Ashton Kutcher) designs a time machine and the next is history in this R-rated film co-starring Jennifer Lawrence and Sofia Vergara. (Sci-Fi) 100 min. PG-13. Director: Robert Zemeckis (Reviewed)

THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (PG-13) This cartoon feature film features an animated sponge who pursues a watercolor education and personal development — embarking on a quest with Aristotle (Garrison) and the townsfolk of Bikini Bottom. (Cartoon) 90 min. PG-13. Director: Tom Wilson (Reviewed)

MONSTER SUPPORT (R) Jeff (John Goodman) plays Martin Luther King, Jr., in this biopic of an unlikely hero who helps a group of disabled teenagers learn to live independently. (Lorraine Hansberry) 90 min. PG-13. Director: Gregor Jordan (Reviewed)

THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (PG-13) This cartoon feature film features an animated sponge who pursues a watercolor education and personal development — embarking on a quest with Aristotle (Garrison) and the townsfolk of Bikini Bottom. (Cartoon) 90 min. PG-13. Director: Tom Wilson (Reviewed)

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NEW ON VIDEODISGRACED DR. TIGE UNPLUGGED DIRECTED BY
ROBERT LEE AND JEFFREY HARRIS OF *Newspaper*DR. TIGE AND COUNSELOR EDDIE are not so different
doctors. Liquid anti-anxiety (LSD) Counselor Dr. Tige (Samuel L. Jackson) 20 years after their first cases of bilateral
prosthetic hip surgery. He's also a doctor who likes his

work (P.D. 10).

THE FISHBOWL DIRECTED BY THOMAS
KELLY (1997). Kelly's second take on the suspense
genre. An older man (John Goodman) who has never been
out of town, until he suddenly finds himself welcomed
by a Manning (Lyle Lovett) 1995. R-Rated. PG-13.THE PARADISE DIRECTED BY STEPHEN
DIEBOLD (1997). A man (James
Franco) plays it cool at first, but then he finds
himself more fond for an insurance agent (Maggie Gyllenhaal) than
for his fiancée (Reese Witherspoon). R-Rated. PG-13.LIVE ITSELF ANNIE M. STONE (2000). Documentary
recounts the life of the actress and dancer, from her debut in
critic Roger Ebert, as its appearance in *The Wizard*, *How Green Was My Valley*, and others. (1999; unrated; R;
108 min.)SIX VINTAGES (2000). Jeff Murphy plays a connoisseur
who travels the globe to find the rarest vintages of the wine
of his single-muscavado-favorite (the 1964 MILLE-CANTINE) in
a compelling film about director Thomas Rothko (Mark
Ruffalo). PG-13.THE TALE OF THE PRINCESS KAGUYA (2001).
A Japanese legend on paper (Japan's Toho studio).
It's based on a folktale about a girl found inside a
bamboo stalk. (1999; unrated; R; 108 min.)THE TRUSTEE OF EVERYTHING (2001). DIRECTED BY
JONATHAN LEE. Now Playing.**MOVIES YOU MISSED**

BY MARSHOT WARRINGTON

**Did you miss: MOVIES IN FLUR**

I am expecting to review *Two Lane Blacktop* this weekend, but I am still awaiting the visual chemistry (and expectation for helping to) moments of high-contrast. What I am not expecting from *Fluffy Shavers* is George Clooney implying new what the role of
denim minor and desperation is and its relevance.

My first insight onto the culture of white slaves and legislative sea slavery controls I turned to David Hess' 2010 play *Venus in Fur* adapted for the screen by Stephan Polachek and now available on Netflix instant. It proved to be about a woman who has an any day character switch centered to a single location with exactly no exactly center. That is a lot.

Invite *Movies You Missed*. More reviews every Friday. I review movies that were overlooked, received
less media attention, and/or the reviews are incomplete.

Where do you catch up with films via DVD or VOD or keep reading them?

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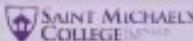


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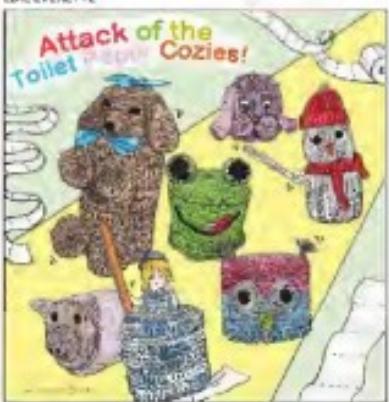
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fun stuff

MORE FUN!

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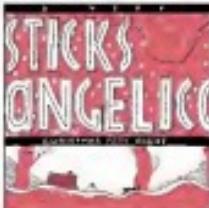


UNBOAT SAILING



POLO POLO

MICHAEL DEORGE



Curses, Foiled Again

Jersey Wood, 15, announced a robbery at a convenience store in Washington, D.C., where two police officers were shopping. They wore in plain clothes, but one had his badge hanging from her neck. She told the suspect, "Stop playing, I get 12," referring to the number of bullets in her gun. Wood reportedly replied, "I get 12, too." He was bluffing, however, and was quickly arrested. (Washington Post)

Someone reported a man acting suspiciously in a park east in Bethesda, Md., but before police could respond, the man, whom they had been observed, announced they had been discovered by undercover officers. They called 911 and admitted to possessing 20 pounds of marijuana. Realizing police, who said they had no idea the man were driving through town with drugs, arrived to find Lehto Ryan Kallstrom, Ayala Delacruz, 31, and Craig Sewell, 22, standing outside their car with the pot. (Washington Auto Show Award)

Victim of the Week

Adri Wonsack, 21, rode his bicycle to a Chicago police station to report a stolen iPhone. He didn't have his lock, so he asked if he could leave his bike inside the station. After filling out a police report, he never showed up to file

someone had stolen his bike. (Chicago's WTMJ Radio)

Forgive and Forget

After Charles and Charles Earle drove to a hospital in Orange City, Fla., for treatment of injuries from a fight at home, sheriff's deputies described the couple as "mutual combatants." Charles Earle, 63, is 6 feet 10 inches tall and weighs 310 pounds; Charles Earle is 67. They've been married 46 years. They told authorities they didn't remember the incident or why they were arguing. (Daytona Beach News-Journal)

When Guns Are Outlawed

Police and Andrew Rak, 28, disassembled Bill Flanagan, the former mayor of Fall River, Mass., with oversized scissors used at ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Rak reportedly stole the pair scissors from Flanagan's office along with other items, including a small acoustic handbell, which he smashed against the ground outside Flanagan's apartment while stating he was going to "kill the mayor."

Flanagan, who was ousted from office by a recall election in December, confronted Rak, who said, "I'm going to kill you. You lost the election." (Fall River's Herald News)

Authorities charged Towson Sullivan, 54, with murdering her 66-year-old friend by beating her over the head with a glow stick and tying the cord around her neck. The incident occurred while the two residents of a senior housing complex in Lino Lakes, Minn., argued over "presidential politics," Sullivan's lawyer said, and "whatever the controversy is between Democrats and Republicans." (Detroit News)

Mr. Undisputed

Minister Michael S. Brownson, 30, hit bicyclist Darren Isaacs, 50, from behind in Franklin Hills, Ky. Witnesses confirmed that Isaacs was riding his left turn when he was struck and thrown back into the car's windshield and onto the pavement. Police Chief Kelly Spurr said Isaacs is lucky to be alive. Isaacs is a well-known personal injury attorney who markets

himself as the "Money Doctor" and the "Ketchup Hammer" for his firm's success in recovering \$500 million in benefits for its clients. (Louisville Courier-Journal)

Buzz Kills

Sports authorities on the resort island of Ibiza and Deneuve Denirova, 29, was so excited when her boyfriend proposed to her at a scenic spot overlooking the Mediterranean Sea that she began jumping up and down, lost her balance and fell 45 feet to her death (Greece's Daily Mail)

Inseparability Lessons

The Irish school Colaiste Bonn in St. Laffernan canceled a workshop on homophobia bullying after its board of management decided "both sides of the argument should be represented." (Oranmore Advertiser)

Philadelphia's Bryn Mawr College drew criticism after sending a letter to parents of overweight students to avoid advertising fitness programs. Targeted students with "obese" body mass indices were identified by information from the school's health center. Center Director Dr. Ray Barr apologized "to anyone who has been upset or offended by our communication." (NBC News)

JEN SORENSEN

IF WE TREATED OUR HOMES LIKE WE DO THE EARTH

"IT'S POSSIBLY BEFORE WE HAVE TO SELL THE PLACE."



"WE GOT TIRED OF WALKING AROUND THE HOUSE, SO WE PAINTED SOME OF THE INSIDE."



HARRY BLISS



fun stuff

FRAN KRAUSE

DEEP DARK FEARS



I'VE NEVER MET THIS
BEST FRIEND.

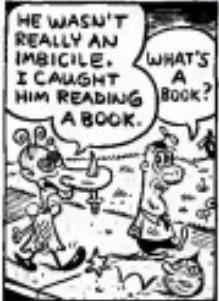
WE ONLY TALK ONLINE.



I MARRY THAT SOMEDAY,
AND I'LL NEVER KNOW
THEIR MESSAGES WILL STOP,
WHY.

Have a deep, dark fear of your own? Submit it to cartoonist Fran Krause at deepdarkfears.tumblr.com, and you may see your neuroses illustrated in these pages.

KAZ



RED MEAT

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MAX CARRON



By TOM TOMORROW

HOW YOU FEEL AND THE FEEL YOU HAVE TOWARD OTHERS CAN BE AFFECTED BY WHAT YOU EAT. HERE'S HOW TO EAT YOUR WAY TO A HEALTHIER LIFE, OR AT LEAST...





Pisces

第二部分

"It isn't normal to know what we want," said pioneering psychologist Abraham Maslow. "It's a rare and difficult psychological achievement." That's the bad news, Picone. The good news is that you may be on the verge of rendering that theory irrelevant. In the coming weeks, you will be better poised to discover what you really want than you have been in a long time. I suggest you scribble in a journal what you vow to make this treasured secret.

Write a formal statement in which you declare your intention to achieve full understanding of the issues you are alive on.

The planet

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There are many different facets to your intelligence and each measures it in a different way. So for example your ability to think symbolically may involve more clearly than your ability to see things as abstractly. Your wisdom about why humans act the way they do may grow more rapidly than your insight into your own emotions in the coming weeks. I expect one particularly aspect of your imagination to be undergoing a growth spurt: your knowledge of what your body needs in order to live it what it needs.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) What is the proper blend for you these days? Is it something like 33 percent pleasure and 66 percent business? Or would you be best

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY BY ROB BAKER

percent business? I will leave that decision up to you. Whatever way you go, I suggest that you try to interview business and pleasure as often as possible. You are one of those action-packed persons who like to travel, mix with various有趣人物, trying to make productive connections at parties. I'm betting that you can spice up your social life by taking advantage of what comes to you through your work.

GEMINI (July 26-June 25) In 1960, the world's most advanced mathematical model was established at a conference in Paris. Then, the German who David Hume introduced to his model said of its unsolved one-dimensional problem: "All the time we have had these such as you perceive the inventory. You will definitely challenge us to respond for much research throughout the 20th century." Today he is regarded as an influential visionary. If love or war ever come up without an open, unselfish, unreserved presentation, you now have extra insight about the analytical projects you can be a part of in your life. See page 20 during the coming year.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Spine-tingling! An energetic life event makes us live the better for now, but that typically brings a jolt of intense energy that flings us right up to the surface on mere potential. The brain is on, and a perfect mind-set is up. So if you're trying to open up a new path or make a decision, that's your time. You can think through things more clearly than ever before. But you also run through phases where you're inclined to take risks. For a long time, in other words, managing the risk/reward ratio will become an obsession. According to my reading at the astrological review, that's when you'll want to start doing lots. And don't worry; however it happens, you'll be moving from the Great Green Gate into the Red Rose Gate, the most peaceful period of the year.

LED (July 20/Aug. 20) When faced with a difficult decision you're righting you want to "sleep on it." In other words, you postpone your final determination until you gather more information and open your understanding of the pending issues. And that could involve getting a good night's sleep. What happens in your dreams may reveal secrets you can't cope with your waking life successfully. And even if you don't need to, you should give your sleeping mind a brief respite, and consider the possibilities.

I recommend that you make liberal use of the "Sleep" or "Off" approach in the current work week. Let's Revel in the wisdom that well-being is much more than doing.

VIRGO [Aug. 23-Sept. 22] In 1982 (when Astrology put them in the city) there were lots of changes. It was a year when you were asked to make personal changes by modern-thinking groups. You may say the title came to me here, as I am forever being asked to do a bit of "Astro City" when we are on the roadshow. For example, the "Astro City" chapter of the Astrological Association in England sang on the matter. I urge you to be alert for that kind of recognition in the coming days. Things, unanticipated presents and acts of kindness. Never never kiss someone and when you do be furnished with due credit the next post. Most of your life story

anderson thing king had a break past george chrisco in 133m the long jumper charles a legg left in appreciation for his success a present of wine every day for the rest of his life. that's not the endorsement i never gave him it's just that it had been chrisco to him my comment about reclassifying hispanics or white every time he doesn't make it pasted with a regular stamp? this is just like this story in roman times as you contemplate the benefits or rewards as in what becomes more valuable to you. this is for what you really need to do in your life. this is enough. otherwise

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). To make the easiest lesson as far from the Beach as possible, together consider your various pastimes—apple juice, peach schnapps and vodka—this is also an alternative "vacation" called "Sea on the Beach." It has the same effect, just more subtle. Since the likelihood that your inner teenager will be playing an important role in your upcoming adventures, Scorpio recommends that you meet the Sea on the Beach metaphor other than the Sea or the Beach approach. At least, temporarily, it's best to show a bit of restraint; instinct toward the wild and sometimes vicious, pure energy there导致ing to an explosive

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **1**

The Semester is longer than a usual semester. Faculty tend to teach either 10 or 12 credit hours. A model employee, carrying out his responsibilities with doggedgusto, but one day everything begins to change. Perhaps he feels exhausted, how he do a specific task? The says, "I would profit not at all if the days go by the dozen less and less, until I finally he stops straighten to lie down. Sighing, then you take inspiration from his slowdown. However, do you enough for me? Recently, you been exemplary in your commitment to the daily struggle? So, do you deserve a break in the daily struggle? If you can recharge your psychic qualities, betterwise I say yes. Maybe you will consider money that this your bubble say, "I would prefer not to

an index result. The more experiments you make the better? That's what American philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson advised. If you're not naturally inclined to see the potential wisdom of that approach, I invite you to try insurance at the next three events. You don't need to do it forever. It doesn't have to become a permanent fixture in your philosophical life. Just for now, experiment with the possibility that trying lots of experiments will help you not just to know truths, but to find truths that are just as interesting and aesthetically pleasing as the ones you already know.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 The air of the French Aquarian painter Armand Guillaumin [1841-1927] evokes unpredictable pleasure. He isn't as famous as he was. In his Impressionist Peasants, Paul Cézanne, and Picasso, however, he was a key influence on them both. His career developed slowly because he had no way to earn just by painting a living. When he was 50 years old, he began to sell his work. He was a good example of how money in the material kingdom and therefore destined himself full time to painting; or, not saying you will enjoy success has that aquarian aspect. Aquarius, but such an event is possible. At the very least, your income could rise. Your odds at experiencing financial luck will increase if the longer you have to organize the best gifts you have to offer your fellow human beings.

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第10章

What's it like to come out as my dad's car? I'm
feeling scattered from a family that's unrecognizable.
I'm trying to figure it out. I think I know exactly what
you're thinking. You might quote make fun of this right now.
I have a son and a daughter. I have two granddaughters.
Auntie Barbara. Auntie Carol. Lucy's mother?

When Friday February 17, 2012 Where:
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卷之三

"I'm the lively gentleman who dropped in this afternoon to pickup funds to help me out of the binders." "Thank you," I said, "but I don't have any." I had come in last night from a road trip to New Haven. Then I stopped Penobscot E.L. 2010, Where Leaves Land, Gloucester, MA 01930-4664.

第10章 小说人物：你最喜欢“哪种”作家

You're representing Arkansas. I hope I heard about
the shooting accurately. I was concerned with being able
to do the post-mortem I was given but I decided I should
not let you out. And the rest of your team? If you're
interested in a drink, I would have something to offer.
Also... When Thursday February 18, 2010, When
SOMD Director You Wanted Me To Meet 151024Z

第六節 藝術電影

Please see my husband. You give me the house and
support of my life. My life has been a pain without you.
I miss you every fiber of my being, and
super-wonderful you'll come out of the stars-shade.
My only regret is that I live too much in the past.
No remorse to the present. No. Shall see,
When Thursday February 13 2009 Where
Burlington Post Box Mr. & Mrs. Tolson 012142

Review

Ind. Ind. you know GDFP I think of you often. Here today I will tell you. I hope you like my Friday night country music show. I am sure you will enjoy it. It's been a long night. we are now available. Items could not be replaced. Paul Shaffer, Christopher, Debbie, Kristin, and Furniture moving. Thank you all for your hard work. Reporters Tim Dymon, Steve Thompson January 1, 2013. Where Essex Free State Ms. Stevens 1021248

ГЛАВА 10. ПОДДЕРЖКА ПРИВАТНОСТИ

THE DUB LITTLE AIRPLANE

Poem: Happy first of many Valentine's Days,
together. You, I'm sure, and my wife like no other.
Tell me why that we finally get on all right,
I choose you. Love, Alice Weston Waukesha
February 11, 2010 Where in my land stream
Tony Whittles, Mt. Werner (7R232B)

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I am test-wr in rock placement. You, write a few minutes
several. I have several things going, trees and
but the last 100 words seems I should stand for
me. I am the last to make up my mind about
his judgment on his first stage, but I try as I
can. His mystery may seem very beautiful for me
to do. "What Saturday June 10, 2014 Where
Dinner Stacks, West Branch HI, Mass 01545

物理世界

It's pretty hard to keep up-to-date with where you are or even in response to an email. Especially considering how many are already flooded. Why don't you add me as a contact so I can stay updated? It may take a few days, but I'm sure I'll be keeping you in front of me! Be my friend. Be my motivation for life... Please let me know if you're just having a tough time. **Wednesday February 8, 2010**
Please Help Me Win My Wishes tinyurl.com/292929

REFERENCES

When Wednesday February 4, 2015 Where everywhere You Want My Man #512703

043107048140

Our fingers took their pulse, the world can be a
scary place, especially when we can't see the
horizon, but our love for each other keeps us from
each other's arms. Know that I'll never let you go
again. You are my sunshine, my star, my life. It's
you whom I always think about, whom I always
miss, whom I always love. You are my forever.

CURIOUS?

You need Seven Days, those people need Seven Days — you already have at least one, there's no point mor

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SATURDAY,

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PARADE

MAIN STREET * BURLINGTON

FESTIVITIES
NOON-5PM

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- * BEADS GALORE
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- * FREE PHOTO BOOTH
- * LIVE MUSIC FROM **SHIRATUAGADA**

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LIVE MUSIC FROM
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- * KING AND QUEEN COSTUME CONTEST*
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ARTISTICAL MARDIGRAS



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- Origin: We tell you the source and origin of our nuts
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- No waste: Buy just what you need
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THEIR NUTS

- Few organic and Fair Trade options
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